Safeguarding Solomon Islands endemic and globally threatened biodiversity and ecosystem services from key threats, particularly invasive alien species and unsustainable land use practices (SAFE project)

Part I: Project Information

GEF ID
10698

Project Type
FSP

Type of Trust Fund
GET

CBIT/NGI
CBIT **No**
NGI **No**

Project Title
Safeguarding Solomon Islands endemic and globally threatened biodiversity and ecosystem services from key threats, particularly invasive alien species and unsustainable land use practices (SAFE project)

Countries
Solomon Islands

Agency(ies)
UNDP

Other Executing Partner(s)
Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM)

Executing Partner Type
Government

GEF Focal Area
Multi Focal Area

Taxonomy

Focal Areas, Land Degradation, Land Degradation Neutrality, Land Productivity, Sustainable Land Management, Integrated and Cross-sectoral approach, Sustainable Livelihoods, Income Generating Activities, Improved Soil and Water Management Techniques, Ecosystem Approach, Sustainable Agriculture, Community-Based Natural Resource Management, Biodiversity, Mainstreaming, Fisheries, Forestry - Including HCVF and REDD+, Agriculture and agrobiodiversity, Tourism, Biomes, Tropical Rain Forests, Lakes, Coral Reefs, Wetlands, Sea Grasses, Mangroves, Rivers, Species, Threatened Species, Invasive Alien Species, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Terrestrial Protected Areas, Community Based Natural Resource Mngt, Productive Landscapes, Productive Seascapes, Coastal and Marine Protected Areas, Influencing models, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Demonstrate innovative approache, Stakeholders, Local Communities, Civil Society, Community Based Organization, Academia, Non-Governmental Organization, Beneficiaries, Communications, Education, Public Campaigns, Awareness Raising, Behavior change, Indigenous Peoples, Private Sector, SMEs, Type of Engagement, Consultation, Partnership, Information Dissemination, Participation, Gender Equality, Gender results areas, Participation and leadership, Access to benefits and services, Capacity Development, Gender Mainstreaming, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Women groups, Gender-sensitive indicators, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Enabling Activities, Knowledge Exchange, Learning, Theory of change, Indicators to measure change, Adaptive management, Knowledge Generation

Sector

Mixed & Others

Rio Markers

Climate Change Mitigation

Climate Change Mitigation 1

Climate Change Adaptation

Climate Change Adaptation 1

Submission Date

6/16/2022

Expected Implementation Start

10/1/2022

Expected Completion Date

9/30/2028

Duration

72In Months

Agency Fee($)

875,174.00

A. FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS

Objectives/Programs	Focal Area Outcomes	Trust Fund	GEF Amount($)	Co-Fin Amount($)
BD-1-1	Mainstream biodiversity across sectors as well as landscapes and seascapes through biodiversity mainstreaming in priority sectors	GET	3,754,733.00	8,500,000.00
BD-2-7	Address direct drivers to protect habitats and species and improve financial sustainability, effective management, and ecosystem coverage of the global protected area estate	GET	4,127,762.00	7,740,000.00
LD-1-3	Maintain or improve flows of ecosystem services, including sustaining livelihoods of forest-dependent people through Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR)	GET	1,076,556.00	4,100,000.00
LD-2-5	Create enabling environments to support scaling up and mainstreaming of SLM and LDN	GET	253,307.00	1,400,000.00
		Total Project Cost($)	**9,212,358.00**	**21,740,000.00**

B. Project description summary

Project Objective

Solomon Islands indigenous species and ecosystems at reduced risk from invasive alien species, land degradation and unsustainable resource use as a result of effective government enabling and capacity, community participation and resilient blue/green livelihoods.

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing ($)	Confirmed Co-Financing($)

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing ($)	Confirmed Co-Financing($)
Component 1. Enabling framework for safeguarding biodiversity, combating land degradation and securing a nature-based economy.	Technical Assistance	Outcome 1: Strengthened inter-sectoral governance, capacity and strategies to mainstream biodiversity and LDN and support a nature-based economic pathway. This will be measured by the following: (i) National coordination mechanisms for implementation of NBSAP, including (a) IAS prevention and management (b) promotion of sustainable land management and (c) promotion of blue/green economy. (ii) National capacity for integrated natural resources management in key sectors increased by at least 15 points as measured by UNDP capacity development	Output 1.1 Cross-sectoral committee operationalized/strengthened to mainstream biodiversity across sectors, supported by blue/green economy strategy, relevant MOUs, improved national/local coordination and strengthened regulatory framework. Output 1.2 Foundations for achieving land degradation neutrality (LDN) are developed through improved land use policy, regulations, multi-sector coordination and adoption of climate smart agriculture. Output 1.3 Government stakeholders at national and provincial levels (including agriculture, livestock, forestry and fisheries extension officers and PA managers) capacitated to enforce key mandates related to conservation of globally significant and endemic species, IAS and sustainable land management through institutionalized training and provision of equipment. Output 1.4 Strengthened information management for biodiversity, IAS and LDN linked to existing integrated data portal, along with enhanced decision support through improved	GET	1,679,000.00	4,250,000.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing ($)	Confirmed Co-Financing($)
Component 2. Comprehensive risk management approach to address IAS threats.		Outcome 2: Comprehensive IAS framework for early detection, control and management identifies and prioritizes highest risk invasion pathways to safeguard natural and production systems from IAS. This will be measured by the following: (i) The National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan is finalized, strengthened and implemented. (ii) National capacity for biosecurity increased by at least 15 points to prevent incursions of new IAS organisms into the country as measured by UNDP Capacity Development Scorecard (modified for IAS) with	Output 2.1 - National strategy for IAS management (NISSAP) adopted and operationalized through appropriate governance and established Standard Operating Procedures and prioritized lists of high-risk IA. Output 2.2- Strengthened biosecurity measures including essential equipment and capacity to support prevention, enforcement and control of IAS at key entry/exit points and between islands, with strengthened Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) mechanism and Emergency Response Plans (ERPs) in place and tested.	GET	944,000.00	2,350,000.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing ($)	Confirmed Co-Financing($)
Component 3. Community-based integrated ecosystem management and threat reduction at land/seascape scale	Investment	Outcome 3: Community participation and improved livelihoods from a nature-based economic pathway that reduces threats from IAS. This will be measured by the following: (i) At least 27,364 ha of terrestrial protected area under improved management with at least 20 point increase from baseline values. (ii) At least 39,400 ha of marine protected area under improved management with at least 20 point increase from baseline values. (iii) At least 76,258 hectares of production landscapes under improved management practices to benefit	Output 3.1 Integrated land/seascape management plans with strong community governance developed and implemented over 12 landscapes/seascapes, using traditional and other knowledge to reduce threats from IAS, land degradation and unsustainable resource use. Output 3.2 National species conservation action plans implemented for globally significant and indigenous biodiversity including in-situ measures to enhance habitats and reduce IAS threats and over-exploitation. Output 3.3 Smallholder farmers supported to implement innovative agricultural practices for sustainable land management that contribute to LDN, protect ecosystem services, reduce threats from IAS and improve incomes, including through farmer field schools and demonstration of model farms. Output 3.4 Diversified resilient livelihoods options co-developed with communities to support ecosystem services provision, species and habitat recovery and the emergence of new blue/green business opportunities (e.g. food, ecotourism, handicrafts, circular	GET	5,046,690.00	11,150,000.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing ($)	Confirmed Co-Financing($)
Component 4. Knowledge management, awareness, M&E and gender mainstreaming.	Technical Assistance	Outcome 4. Increased project impact, replication and upscaling through enhanced awareness and knowledge management. This will be measured by the following: (i) At least 50% of sampled project stakeholders (50:50 men and women) aware of potential conservation threats and adverse impacts of IAS and unsustainable land management practice. (ii) At least 10 project best practices and lessons (including on gender and youth mainstreaming and socio-cultural benefits) are accessed and applied throughout the Solomon Islands.	Output 4.1 National communications strategy and plan implemented to raise public awareness on the crucial importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services and the broad benefits of ecosystem-based management. Output 4.2 Knowledge sharing tools, biodiversity information/learning centres, events and networks developed and enhanced to aid effectiveness and up-scaling, including across the Pacific and with other SIDS. Output 4.3 M&E system supports project impact including gender and youth mainstreaming.	GET	1,107,000.00	2,750,000.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing ($)	Confirmed Co-Financing($)
				Sub Total ($)	**8,776,690.00**	**20,500,000.00**
Project Management Cost (PMC)						
				GET	435,668.00	1,240,000.00
				Sub Total($)	**435,668.00**	**1,240,000.00**
				Total Project Cost($)	**9,212,358.00**	**21,740,000.00**

Please provide justification

C. Sources of Co-financing for the Project by name and by type

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount($)
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM)	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	10,480,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1,600,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAL)	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	4,440,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAL)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	2,080,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources (MFMR)	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	640,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources (MFMR)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	2,500,000.00
			Total Co-Financing($)	**21,740,000.00**

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM): Public Investment of $1,200,000 from Government budgetary allocation for National Environment and Conservation Program. Public Investment of $9,280,000from following specific activities: (i) BIOPAMA-biodiversity and protected area management ($1,000,000) that supports capacity building and improved access to information and tools to improve mapping of PAs and Conservation areas; financial support for enhanced management effectiveness of PAs/Community Conservation Areas; increasing resilience of PAs/CAs to shock and recovery; maintenance and improvement of livelihoods and support for other effective area based conservation mechanisms (OECMs) that focus on community conservation mechanisms; (ii) PEBACC - Pacific Ecosystems-based Adaptation to Climate Change ($250,000) to support integration of EbA into development, climate change adaptation and natural resources policy and planning processes; (iii) MISCCAP - Climate Change Programme ? Managing Invasive Species for

Climate Change Adaptation with SPREP Cooperation ($1,500,000) Specialist support, technical assistance, advice and training on invasive species and biosecurity management, enabling priority management actions against invasive species, supporting collaboration through the sharing of lessons, stories, expertise, and natural enemies already present in the Pacific and creating new solutions by researching natural enemy options for serious emerging weed threats not studied to date: (iv) LECD ? Community Solar Fisheries ? ($1,280,000) for promotion of solar application for fisheries sector; (v) FOVEP ? Forest Value Enhancement Project and Tourism ($5,000,000) and (vi) Integrated Disaster Risk Management Program. In terms of forest value enhancement support for reducing negative environmental impacts, increasing revenue from proforest production to promote equitable revenue disbursement to location communities and a regulatory and enforcement framework to balance utilization of forests for both logging and non-logging purposes. IN terms of tourism, support for building government capacity to investment in sustainable tourism activities. management In-Kind contribution ($1,600,000) in the form of staff salaries, use of office space and government assets for implementation of the project Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAL) Public Investment of $3,000,00,000 from Government budgetary allocation for Biosecurity Program involving management and control of Alien Invasive Species in the Solomon Islands for six years based on annual estimates. Public Investment of $1,440,000 are for the following specific activities: (i) Phyto Sanitation ? ($1,300,000), this supports and promotes food standards and protections from pests including Alien Invasive Species and diseases; and (ii). Support towards Research and Extension Division ($140,000) which covers work on Coconut Rhinoceros Beetles (CRB). In-Kind (Recurrent expenditure) contribution ($2,08co 0,000) in the form of staff salaries, use of office space and government assets for implementation of the project. Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources (MFMR) Public Investment of $640,000 is targeted towards In-shore & Aqua Culture and Research Division which supports community management of marine resources, conservation of important and protected marine species and livelihood activities. In-Kind (Recurrent Expenditure) contribution ($2,500,000) in the form of staff salaries, use of office space and government assets for implementation of the project

D. Trust Fund Resources Requested by Agency(ies), Country(ies), Focal Area and the Programming of Funds

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount($)	Fee($)	Total($)
UNDP	GET	Solomon Islands	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	7,882,495	748,837	8,631,332.00
UNDP	GET	Solomon Islands	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	1,329,863	126,337	1,456,200.00
				Total Grant Resources($)	**9,212,358.00**	**875,174.00**	**10,087,532.00**

E. Non Grant Instrument

NON-GRANT INSTRUMENT at CEO Endorsement

Includes Non grant instruments? **No**

Includes reflow to GEF? **No**

F. Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

PPG Required **true**

PPG Amount ($)

200,000

PPG Agency Fee ($)

19,000

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount($)	Fee($)	Total($)
UNDP	GET	Solomon Islands	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	160,000	15,200	**175,200.00**
UNDP	GET	Solomon Islands	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	40,000	3,800	**43,800.00**
				Total Project Costs($)	**200,000.00**	**19,000.00**	**219,000.00**

Core Indicators

Indicator 1 Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
22,000.00	27,364.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 1.1 Terrestrial Protected Areas Newly created

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)

Indicator 1.2 Terrestrial Protected Areas Under improved Management effectiveness

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
22,000.00	27,364.00	0.00	0.00

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
Akula National Park Maliata Highlands	**125689** NA	**SelectSelect**		2,000.00					
Akula National Park Tetepare Community Conserved Area, Western Biosphere	**125689** 555547868	**SelectSelect**	12,000.00	15,290.00					
Akula National Park Tubi Forest Reserve	**125689** NA	**SelectSelect**	10,000.00	10,074.00					

Indicator 2 Marine protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
26,128.00	39,400.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 2.1 Marine Protected Areas Newly created

Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)

Indicator 2.2 Marine Protected Areas Under improved management effectiveness

Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
26,128.00	39,400.00	0.00	0.00

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
Akula National Park Beta Kandilae - Kindu, Western Biosphere	**125689** 555544149	**Select**Protected Landscape/ Seascape	12.00						

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
Akula National Park Lau and North Malaita Integrated Sustainable Management Area	**125689**	**Select**Protected Landscape/ Seascape	2,000.00	4,200.00					
Akula National Park Njari island, Western Biosphere	**125689** 555547887	**Select**Protected Landscape/ Seascape	107.00						
Akula National Park Nusa Hope mangrove, Western Biosphere	**125689** 555547873	**Select**Protected Landscape/ Seascape	88.00						

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
Akula National Park Nusa Roviana, Western Biosphere	**125689** 55554414 4	**Select**Protected Landscape/ Seascape	267.00						
Akula National Park Nusatupe reef, Western Biosphere	**125689** 55554788 1	**Select**Protected Landscape/ Seascape	49.00						
Akula National Park Reef Islands and Utupua Seascape (Reef Islands Marine Managed Area)	**125689**	**Select**Protected Landscape/ Seascape	20,000.00	20,400.00					

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)	
Akula National Park Saeraghi Reef, Western Biosphere	**555547883**	**Select**Protected Landscape/Seascape	2,457.00	14,800.00						
Akula National Park Suvania reef, Western Biosphere	**555547884**	**Select**Protected Landscape/Seascape	25.00							
Akula National Park Tetepare MPA, Western Biosphere	**555547867**	**Select**Protected Landscape/Seascape	1,100.00							
Akula National Park Varu North Reef, Western Biosphere	**555547885**	**Select**Protected Landscape/Seascape	23.00							

Indicator 4 Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
34000.00	76258.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 4.1 Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity (hectares, qualitative assessment, non-certified)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
20,000.00	61,829.00		

Indicator 4.2 Area of landscapes that meets national or international third party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations (hectares)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)

Type/Name of Third Party Certification

Indicator 4.3 Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
14,000.00	14,429.00		

Indicator 4.4 Area of High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) loss avoided

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)

Documents (Please upload document(s) that justifies the HCVF)

Title	Submitted

Indicator 6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO?e (direct)	667729	819118	0	0
Expected metric tons of CO?e (indirect)	0	0	0	0

Indicator 6.1 Carbon Sequestered or Emissions Avoided in the AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use) sector

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO?e (direct)	667,729	819,118		
Expected metric tons of CO?e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting	2022	2022		
Duration of accounting	20	20		

Indicator 6.2 Emissions Avoided Outside AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use) Sector

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO?e (direct)				
Expected metric tons of CO?e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting				
Duration of accounting				

Indicator 6.3 Energy Saved (Use this sub-indicator in addition to the sub-indicator 6.2 if applicable)

Total Target Benefit	Energy (MJ) (At PIF)	Energy (MJ) (At CEO Endorsement)	Energy (MJ) (Achieved at MTR)	Energy (MJ) (Achieved at TE)
Target Energy Saved (MJ)				

Indicator 6.4 Increase in Installed Renewable Energy Capacity per Technology (Use this sub-indicator in addition to the sub-indicator 6.2 if applicable)

Technology	Capacity (MW) (Expected at PIF)	Capacity (MW) (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at MTR)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at TE)

Indicator 11 Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female	5,153	9,119		
Male	5,153	9,119		
Total	10306	18238	0	0

Provide additional explanation on targets, other methodologies used, and other focal area specifics (i.e., Aichi targets in BD) including justification where core indicator targets are not provided

Part II. Project Justification

1a. Project Description

1a. ***Project Description***

There are no significant changes from the PIF, with the exception of (i) increase in GEF financing from the BD Focal Area budget; (ii) some changes in Component budgets; (iii) increase in Core Indicator targets and (iv) increase in co-financing. Changes made since the PIF are reflected in Annex H. The increase in Core Indicator values in terms of terrestrial and marine PAs, landscape under improved management (including SLM) and number of beneficiaries was on account of the refining the boundaries of the 4 landscape/seascape sites in PIF (and further sub-division into 12 smaller and manageable landscape/seascape units). The refining of the landscape/seascape boundaries was necessitated to ensure a shared inter-visibility between the land and sea as well as to ensure the inclusion of areas of outstanding ecological, biological and social values. Three criteria were used for the purpose of identifying each landscape/seascape unit, namely to ensure that: (i) their boundaries demarcate common patterns and processes of biodiversity and human uses, governance and threats, so as to present planners with a manageable number of objectives, constraints and opportunities; (ii) area of landscapes and seascapes were large enough to provide spatial context for conservation decisions, considering complementarity and connectivity between areas, threats to natural features, and relationships between different human uses; and (iii) landscapes and seascapes were manageable in that there was a more or less direct connection between the areas selected for conservation and the areas in which conservation actions can be applied given the institututional and capacity that exists. The final core targets were assigned based on scoping of institutional capacities (in particular on the status and management of existing Community Managed Marine Areas and Community Managed Forest Areas), consultation with key stakeholders on the planned conservation and social outcomes, the social and political setting, etc. Refer Annex E for maps of the 12 landscape/seacapes. Following refining the boundaries of the landscape/seascape, changes in the Core Indicators are described herewith. Core Indicator 1.2 (Area of Terrestrial PAs under improved management) increased from the PIF target of 22,000 to 27,364 hectares through the addition of the Malaita Highlands CMFA and adjustment/increase to the area of the Tetepare CMFA. Core Indicator 2.2 (Area of marine PAs under improved management) increased from the PIF target of 26,218 to 39,400 hectares on account of further field consultations and verification of extents and boundaries of the PAs. In terms of Indicator 4.1 (Area of landscape under improved practices outside PAs) the PIF target increased from 20,000 to 61,289 hectares on account of the refining the boundaries of the landscape/seascapes so as to include (in particular for the landscape area) areas that are important for biological and ecological service values, community resource use areas (including for grazing), maintenance of water flows and control and maintenance/control of sediment flows to important community fisheries areas in the marine seascape that would be managed through an integrated landscape/seascape planning approach for each of the 12 landscape/seascape sites. Core Indicator 4.3 (Area under SLM in production systems) increased slightly from PIF value of 14,000 to 14,429 hectares on account of detailed and accurate mapping of smallholder farmlands in the 12 landscape/seascape sites during the PPG stage. As a

consequence of the refining the boundaries of the landscape/seascape boundaries during PPG stage the number of beneficiaries under Core Indiactor 11 increased from 10,306 to 18,238 individuals through the addition of a few new villages and inclusion of entire villages (and sub-villages) rather than parts of these.

1) Development Challenges

The Solomon Islands has the second highest terrestrial biodiversity of anywhere in the Pacific, surpassed only by Papua New Guinea. Solomon Islands also occupies the eastern portion of the global center of marine diversity, known as the Coral Triangle, which also includes all or part of the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Timor Leste and Papua New Guinea. The Solomon Islands? natural forests are of recognized global significance given their unique vegetation, tropical oceanic forest typology and extremely rich biodiversity. The entire country is part of the East Melanesian Biodiversity Hotspot[1][1] on account of the astonishing range of ecosystems and biodiversity it harbors, including 37 Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs)[2][2]. The smaller islands are mostly raised corals and atolls, that are surrounded by barrier, patch, lagoon and fringing reefs. The country?s coastal and marine ecosystems are part of the Coral Triangle marine global biodiversity hotspot, and support almost 500 coral and over 1,000 fish species; aside from the important reef ecosystems there are also 65,000 ha of mangroves and approximately 10,000 ha of seagrass beds. Iconic coastal and marine animals include crocodile *Crocodylus porosus* (LC), eight species of whales, nine species of dolphin, dugong *Dugong dugong (VU)*, five species of turtles (*Eretmochelys imbricate* (CE), *Chelonia mydas* (EN), *Dermochelys coriacea* and *Lepidochelys olivacea* (VU) and *Caretta caretta* (EN), plus many species of sharks and large pelagic fish.

The terrestrial and freshwater aquatic ecosystems are also of global significance. Over 80% of the terrestrial landscapes are forested making the country one of the global 200 forest ecoregions. Some 4,500 plant species have been recorded, of which around 3,200 species are known to be native. With respect of faunal diversity, the Solomon Islands is considered of very high diversity, and the country has been categorized as an ?Endemic Bird Area? (EBA) with the highest number of restricted range species in any EBA in the world, with 163 species of which 69 are considered endemic to the country. Terrestrial insects recorded are around 14,511 species, which include 130 species (30 endemic) of butterflies and 31 cicada species. Freshwater ecosystems include numerous rivers as well as a few lakes, of which Lake Tengano in East Rennel, the largest lake in the insular Pacific (15,500 ha) has been declared a natural UNESCO World Heritage Site. As in most island groups, the diversity of mammals is limited with only 47 species (primarily bats and rodents) recorded, but of which a remarkable 26 are endemic or near endemic. Three of the fruit bats (Bougainville monkey-faced bat Pteralopex ancep, Guadalcanal monkey-faced bat Pteralopex atrata, and montane monkey-faced bat Pteralopex pulchra) are critically endangered, and three of the rodents (Specht's mosaic-tailed rat Melomys spechti, Poncelet's giant rat Solomys ponceleti, and emperor rat Uromys imperator) are

endangered. Eighty species of reptile have been recorded and 21 species of frogs. This globally significant biodiversity is matched by, and has in part shaped, the country?s cultural diversity across the 347 inhabited islands. Over 80 languages are spoken and there is a great diversity of tribes, customs and norms. 80% of the land is owned and governed customarily; thus, government agencies act as a service provider, addressing issues upon request from communities.

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[2] USP. 2012. Ecosystem Profile, East Melanesian Biodiversity Hotspot can be available at https://www.cepf.net/sites/default/files/emi_ecosystem_profile.pdf

[3] http://www.keybiodiversityareas.org/site/results?reg=0&cty=192&snm=

From a socio-economic point of view, the biological diversity (BD) of Solomon Islands is critical to the people of Solomon Islands, in that it has shaped human wellbeing of its citizens for centuries. In addition to the significant biodiversity and species endemism, the forest ecosystems of the Solomon Islands play critical ecological roles that sustain life. The maintenance of watersheds and water quality, soil retention and erosion control, provision of critical habitat for fauna, climate regulation, nutrient cycling and the pollination of plants are just a few of the essential ecological services provided by forests to Solomon Islands. While logging for commercial timber is the country?s major source of foreign revenue and employment, there is a great dependency on the forests for wood fuel and construction materials. Wild forage [including non-timber forest products (NTFPs)] supplement subsistence agriculture and many native plants also serve as commercial crops, sold in the urban areas with higher values than imported products. Agriculture, consisting of three sub-sectors (subsistence smallholder farming; a commercial sub-sector; and large plantations) is the backbone of the Solomon Islands rural economy. It is the most important sector for the economy, accounting in 2014 for approximately 16% of the GDP[1], with strong implications for future economic growth and human development. 85% of the population are smallholder farmers practicing low-intensity farming. In the traditional subsistence food production system, food comes from gardens cultivated under shifting cultivation [*low-input, extensive, rotational ?swidden? (slash and burn) agriculture in forested customary owned land****[2]***], as well as primary forest (NTFPs), fallows (secondary forest), also mangroves, reef, deep sea, rivers, plantations, nut groves, swamps and some very limited agroforestry systems[3][3] around the village and in the bush (ASGIP - SIG, 2020). The system leaves biodiversity corridors in between the farms as a consequence of the customary property regimes. The subsistence-based informal agriculture smallholder sector has always been the foundation of food security in Solomon Islands. With a heavy reliance on ecosystem services such as soil conditions, water resources and forests this system has provided food and shelter for most of the nation?s population and has been

the main safety net during difficult times. Just below 8% of the total land area of Solomon Islands is ?cropland?[4][4]; mixed subsistence agriculture dominates, followed by coconut, mixed crops (including coconut overstory) and palm oil. Cocoa and ?other? agriculture make up the remaining area under cultivation and subsistence use. Large-scale farming for export is restricted to major commodities such as coconut and oil palm, with future emphasis on other crops such as coffee and cocoa, as well as high value niche products such as vanilla/spices. Rice, formerly an export crop, is currently no longer exported, however, under the new 10-year roadmap (the Agriculture Sector Growth and Investment Plan - ASGIP 2021-2030), it is a priority that rice is farmed commercially and exported. The struggle for basic economic need is often constrained by labor and the necessary skills for managing agrobiodiversity. This is further compounded with a shift in the staple diet from local food to imported products, hence changes the production systems triggering a more rapid rate of loss of local agrobiodiversity.

The importance of the marine environment to the local people cannot be ignored. Since the country is characterized by islands and surrounded by the Pacific Ocean, this has resulted in 95% of the Solomon Islanders to be directly associated with the coastal environment, where at least 50 to 90% of the daily consumption of food protein are obtained from the coastal biome, particularly fish. It has been estimated that the direct use of coral reef per km2 reef per year stand a record of US $ 75,000 to US$170,000[5][5]. Coral and mollusk are also important source of lime for the national betel nut coral lime trade, contributing up to 19% of the total direct value of goods. Mangrove provides wood for firewood, building materials, carvings, canoes, ornaments and propagule for food. Annual subsistence from mangroves is estimated at US$ 345?1501 per household?[6][6]. Coral reef, mangroves, sea grass, coastal shrubs, intertidal muds and algae ecosystem supports nursery, provides fishing ground and enabled nutrient cycle. The marine biodiversity, particularly tuna species is one of the highest contributor to the national economy, second to logging.[7][7] Failure to recognize the role that marine ecosystem play in supporting livelihoods, economic activity, and human wellbeing has, in many instances, led to inequitable and unsustainable resource management decisions.

The predominantly subsistence lifestyle that characterizes the Solomon Islands economy is underpinned by the country?s heavy reliance on its biological diversity or biodiversity. The importance of biodiversity as the basis for the people?s livelihood and wellbeing is therefore well understood and it is recognized that without biodiversity the country also loses its aesthetic, spiritual and educational values and significance, which are integral to our wellbeing and traditional way of life. Nonetheless, there is growing realization that the country?s biodiversity is also under increasing pressure from multiple sources of threats, for example, from habitat loss, land degradation (LD) overexploitation,

invasive alien species (IAS) and climate change (CC). These pressures can be devastating for the health of the country?s biodiversity and, therefore its livelihood and wellbeing. This is further aggravated by the fact that the Solomon Islands is experiencing a major epidemiological, nutritional and demographic transition, contributing to a triple burden of malnutrition, including undernourishment, micronutrient deficiencies and overweight/obesity, and food insecurity. The GEF project is thus timely, as it intends to help the Solomon Islands in safeguarding its indigenous species and ecosystems from IAS, halt land degradation and restore degraded areas, control unsustainable resource use and climate-induced risks through a holistic and integrated landscape-seascape management approach through effective government enabling and capacity, community participation and development of resilient blue/green livelihoods.

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[4] Source: https://pafpnet.spc.int/policy-bank/countries/solomon-islands

[5] From NC?s field report from Utupua Island

[6] World Agroforestry Centre definition = ?agroforestry is the interaction of agriculture and trees, including the agricultural use of trees. This comprises trees on farms and in agricultural landscapes, farming in forests and along forest margins and tree-crop production, including cocoa, coffee, rubber and oil palm. Interactions between trees and other components of agriculture may be important at a range of scales: in fields (where trees and crops are grown together), on farms (where trees may provide fodder for livestock, fuel, food, shelter or income from products including timber) and landscapes (where agricultural and forest land uses combine in determining the provision of ecosystem services)?. Source: https://www.worldagroforestry.org/about/agroforestry

[7] The Forest and land use composition of the Solomon Islands study, 2016

[8] Albert, J. A., Trinidad, A., Boso, D. and Schwarz, A. J. 2012. Coral reef economic valuation and incentives for coral farming in Solomon Islands. Policy Brief. CGIAR Research Program on Aquatic Agricultural Systems. Penang, Malaysia. AAS- 2012-14.

[9] Warren-Rhodes, K, A-M, Schwarz ., NL, Boyle ., J, Albert ., S,S, Agalo., R, Warren ., A, Bana., C, Paul ., R, Kodosiku., W, Bosma., D, Yee ., P, Ronnback., B, Crona., N, Duke. 2011. Mangrove ecosystem services and the potential for carbon revenue in Solomon Islands. Environ Conservdoi doi:10.1017/

[10] Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Ecosystems and Human Well-Being: Synthesis (2005) Island Press, Washington, DC.

Root Causes, Threat and Impacts

The key threats and impacts to biodiversity of the Solomon Islands are the following:

Invasive Alien Species (IAS): The Solomon Islands relies heavily on agriculture and subsistence farming and the country?s economic development and food security and natural environment are under threat from increasing impacts due to IAS incursions and establishment. As assessed by SPREP, invasive species are the leading driver of biodiversity loss in the Pacific and a significant impact on ecosystem resilience leading to a loss in ecosystem services and the ability to adapt to climate change**[1]**. IAS have already had a significant impact on agricultural production [e.g. Coconut Rhinoceros beetle (Oryctes rhinoceros), giant African snail (Lissachatina fulica) on root crops and leafy materials]. The extent of the threat is shown by the fact that 259 IAS (although this number is low, due to the remote nature of much of the country and many of the established IAS may not have been documented currently listed on the Global Register of introduced and invasive species for Solomon Islands[2] and 303 species on the Solomon Islands nation invasive species database with, for example, 13 introduced species of ants (Formicidae) alone. IAS may be introduced intentionally or unintentionally: the little fire ant Wasmannia auropunctata was introduced to Malaita as a biological control for a nut fall bug**[3]** but became a pest, as it is capable of inflicting eye problems in domestic animals and gives a painful bite to people; in contrast both the giant African snail Lissachatina fulica and the Coconut Rhinoceros beetle Oryctes rhinoceros were accidentally introduced probably by the logging industry, while seeds of the highly invasive plant Lantana camara arrived and spread attached to the bodies of cattle. This species can cause severe land degradation, becoming the dominant understory in forests, while in pastures it forms dense thickets rendering the land useless for pasture. While the impacts of IAS on agriculture are well known, those on indigenous biodiversity are little studied. However, the extensive presence of IAS in different habitats suggests they threaten the integrity of ecosystems across the Solomon Islands. For example, a bird survey on Makira in 2015-16 found high numbers of invasive species throughout logged and unlogged forests, in particular rats Rattus spp. and cats Felis catus, which helps explain the disappearance of native species from the island**[4]**. Ground dwelling endemic birds are particularly threatened from predation by dogs, cats and pigs, which have also eliminated most native mammals on Guadalcanal. Invasive species are direct threats to mountain biodiversity, particularly birds and frogs, and interspecific competition with the introduced cane toad adds to the threats to other amphibians. In coastal ecosystems, invasive species such as the crown-of-thorns starfish threatens corals. Unintentional incursions via freight and visitors at ports and airports, as well as intentional introduction of species for agricultural purposes are potential pathways for entry of invasive species. Discharge of ballast water from ships can also introduce IAS to coastal and marine ecosystems. High risk areas for incursions include those with lots of movements and transport (e.g., of food plants) such as between Bougainville, Choiseul, Munda and Gizo. IAS can expand their range rapidly, particularly when they have no natural predators. Slash and burn, which is the most common method for subsistence agriculture throughout the archipelago provides a conducive environment for invasive creepers. It also removes nutrients and allows invasive plants to establish, hence displacing native or cultivated plants.

Habitat destruction and land degradation: logging for commercial timber has caused extensive habitat and biodiversity loss except in the most inaccessible mountain areas. The rate of logging continues to increase, impacting sensitive ecosystems that support livelihood such as water catchments and those areas protected by law, such as area those areas above 400 meters above sea level. Commercially viable native forests are almost exhausted, and there is an urgent need to protect and restore the remaining

forest and biodiversity. Although riverine forests are legally protected, non-compliance by logging companies has led to occasional harvesting in these areas. The fast-increasing population requires more food and income sources that in turn put more pressure on the land and other resources. Subsistence agriculture is causing major habitat destruction, degradation of land and pressure on biodiversity with uncontrolled expansion of gardening (smallholder agriculture) into once virgin forests, habitats and watersheds which invariably is followed by expansion of ranges of many pest organisms as they move into once pristine areas that are now cleared and/or highlydegraded. Due to increasing pressures from the growing human populations and land use competition, the practice of shifting cultivation with slash and burn now has shorter fallow periods lessening the likelihood that these lands can be maintained in agricultural use over the longer term. As of 2016, 15% of forest land had been ?disturbed? by temporary gardening**[1]**, with impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services from soil degradation, low soil fertility and productivity, deforestation and use of agro-chemicals and the introduction of IAS. Farmers use chemical treatments (fertilizers and pesticides) that can have downstream effects on the environment and human health. Within the project target landscapes of predominantly small-scale farms and mixed subsistence cash cropping, all are suffering from land degradation due to drivers such as continuous farming in the same area, climate change and variability, IAS and altered traditional agricultural practices such as ?slash and burn? which have become unsustainable due to intensification. A root cause is increasing population and related pressures on land use and availability. Coastal ecosystems such as mangroves, coral reefs and fisheries are under similar pressure as demand for food, building materials and natural resources increases. This pressure from subsistence livelihoods on biodiversity, ecosystems and productive land is further exacerbated by threats from IAS which are occupying more and more lands (which may themselves establish more easily on degraded habitats) and climate change impacts. Poor land use practices particularly from logging, large monocultures and mining in some islands (e.g., Guadalcanal) directly threaten riverine and coastal ecosystems including coral reefs and seagrass beds (affecting dugong and many other species); for example, the water supply to Honiara is often closed due to high turbidity caused by logging in the catchment.

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[11] https://www.sprep.org/invasive-species-management-in-the-pacific/prismss

[12] Source: https://www.gbif.org/dataset/27b457b5-198a-4d84-b1a8-d4c5b3f0ce2f

[13] https://www.iucn.org/content/another-kind-threat-island-biodiversity#:~:text=The%20Solomon%20Islands%20has%2019,goats%20and%20deer%20on%20islands.

[14] Mittermeier, John & Dutson, Guy & James, Roger & Davies, Tammy & Tako, Reuben & Uy, Al. (2018). The avifauna of Makira (San Cristobal), Solomon Islands. The Wilson Journal of Ornithology. 130. 235-255. 10.1676/16-194.1.

?The main driver of deforestation in SI is the conversion of forest to subsistence agriculture. This occurs predominantly in lowland forest and, to a lesser extent, in hill forest. Of all converted forest, 65% is lowland forest.? (SIG, 2021).

Figures 1 and 2 shows that the largest portion of Solomon Islands forests remains undisturbed. However, between 2001 and 2017, 447,500 ha of forest were degraded by commercial logging and 208,046 ha by temporary gardening. Lowland and hill forest are the forest types most affected by disturbance, predominantly by commercial logging, followed by gardening. In montane and mangrove forests, degradation is comparatively low and caused mainly by temporary gardening and other human disturbance.

Figure 1: Main drivers of forest disturbance in Solomon Islands[16]

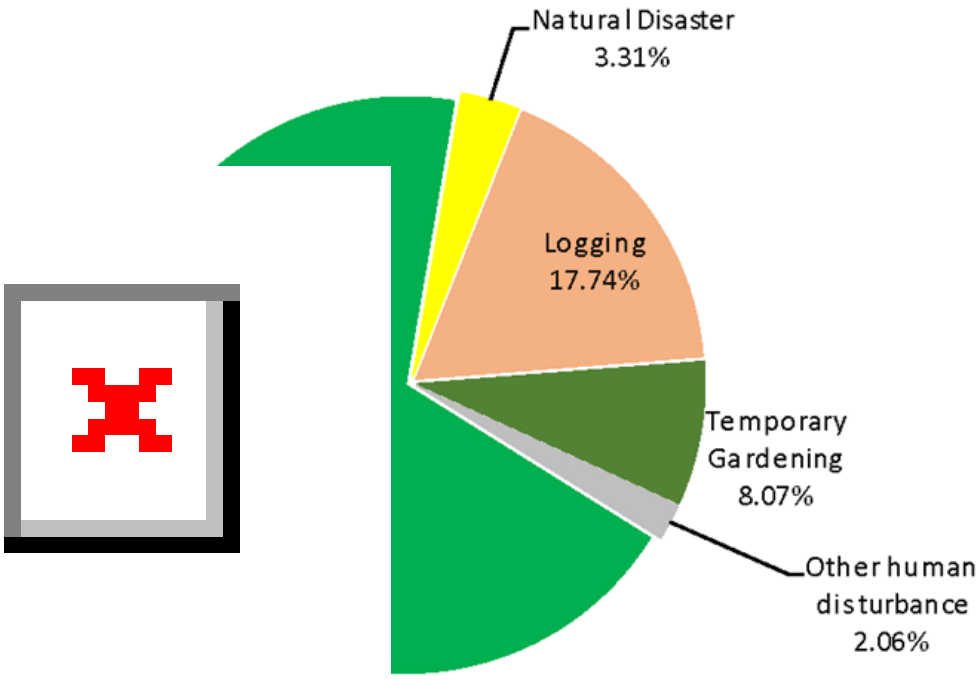
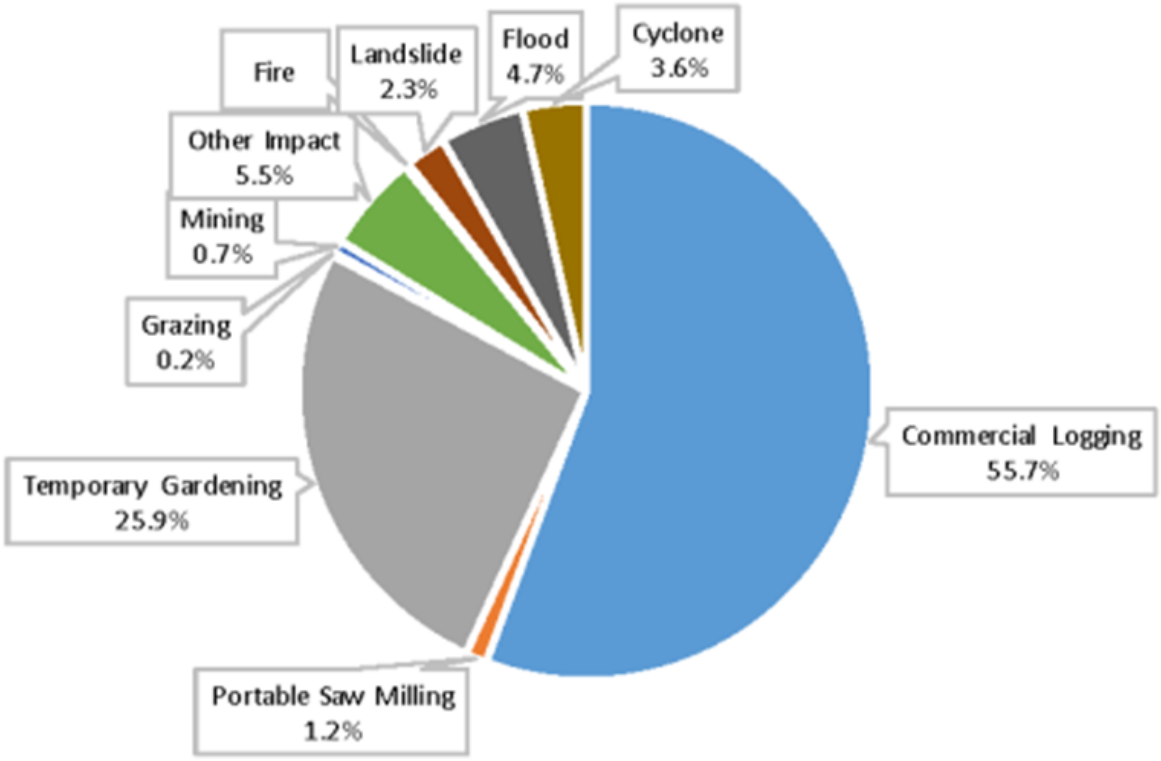


Figure 2: Detailed drivers of forest disturbance in Solomon Islands[17]



Of particular importance in functional terms for land degradation (LD) control and sustainable land management (SLM) are riverine forests, as they provide a buffer along water courses, thus when intact can reduce soil erosion into streams/rivers. Although riverine forests are legally protected, non-compliance by logging companies has led to occasional harvesting. Land, including coastal forests are being lost along coastal areas, where most people in SI live, due to rising sea levels and accelerating rates of coastal erosion, both attributable to climate change, also anthropogenic causes. Furthermore, with rising sea levels, groundwater in coastal areas is becoming more saline, seriously affecting the growing of certain crops. Mangrove forests (also fringing reefs and seagrass beds) play an important role protecting coastal areas (including agriculture, settlements and transport) from the impacts of climate change (rising sea levels, also increasing frequency of storms and cyclones). Coastal ecosystems such as mangroves (also coral reefs and fisheries) are under growing pressure as demand

for food, building materials and natural resources increases. Conversion of mangrove forests has made coastlines even more vulnerable to storms; prolonged dry seasons combined with loss of forests are affecting freshwater biodiversity and water availability; and high rainfall washes sediment from poorly managed land into rivers and coastal ecosystems. Degradation or destruction of mangroves across SI reduce the protections they offer, exacerbating land degradation. Recent estimates from the MACBIO project (Marine and Coastal Biodiversity Management in Pacific Island Countries) (Arena et al, 2015) shows that mangrove forests in Solomon Islands are being destroyed at the alarming rate -1.7%/year, despite the global carbon sequestration benefits they provide, worth about US$ 21.6m each year**[1]**.

Underlying causes of the increasing degradation caused by unsustainable agriculture activities Include:

? Increasing populations;

? Rising social and economic aspirations;

? Limited use of technologies to conserve soil fertility and minimize soil loss;

Absence of institutionalized process for supporting land-use planning by communities. [Planning land use, particularly on customary land, needs to be done carefully given the sensitivities surrounding land ownership. Any approach tosupporting land-use planning by communities and tribal groups need support of traditional leaders, provincial governments, church leaders and the national government.;

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[17] Source: ibid.

[18] http://macbio-pacific.info/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Solomons-MESV-Summary-Digital-LowRes.pdf

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? Limited alternative livelihood options.

Overexploitation of species: While less accessible islands and mountain ecosystems may lower threats from over-exploitation, overharvesting of native species does occurs around inhabited areas. Over-harvesting of coral reef fish species threatens several IUCN Red Listed species, including *Plectropomus leopardus*, *Negaprion acutidens*, *Anderhorstia attenuata* and *Paraxenisthmus springeri*. Offshore, most tuna species (except big-eye tuna) are believed to be harvested at a sustainable rate; however, tuna bycatch poses a major threat to several threatened marine and coastal species including sharks, dolphins and turtles. Dugong is considered to be critically endangered at the national level due to the traditional harvesting of the species in parts of the country. Dolphins are also hunted traditionally in Malaita[1] mainly for their meat and teeth, and also sometimes for live capture for dolphinariums, and populations of all five IUCN Red Listed species of marine turtle are threatened by harvesting and

bycatch. A recent study found that almost 10,000 turtles are harvested each year by spearfishers, and that although the trade of all turtle products was banned in 1993, the sale of turtle products continues[2]. A periodic restriction on harvesting and exporting of sea cucumbers has been imposed and some molluscs may also be over-harvested. The populations of bats and megapodes are declining due to overexploitation across many islands and atolls in the South Pacific, and this may be exacerbated due to the scarcity of alternative low-cost sources of protein, land encroachment, human demographic increase, unemployment and weak forest governance[3]. A recent report concludes that large numbers of wild-caught birds have been laundered from the Solomon Islands into the global wildlife trade through being declared as captive-bred[4]. The vast majority were imported by Malaysia and Singapore and included a few species native to the Solomon Islands, while the majority (77%) were non-native species from Indonesia and Papua New Guinea. However, in terms of the number of individual birds involved in the trade, the majority of exports were species native to the Solomon Islands (54,793). For example, over 20,000 Solomons Cockatoos *Cacatua ducorpsii* were imported from the Solomon Islands between 2000-10.

Climate change: is a severe threat to low-lying coasts and atoll ecosystems due to sea level rise, storms and temperature changes. Tropical cyclones are frequent from November to April although the seasonal cycle is greatly affected by the El Ni?o-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) which in 1997/98 led to prolonged droughts, causing food and water shortages. Lying in the Pacific ?Ring of Fire? and cyclone zone makes the country vulnerable to natural disasters (volcanoes, earthquakes, tsunamis) and extreme weather events which are exacerbated by climate change. Annual sea level rises of up to 10mm have been recorded, causing the submergence of the lowest lying islands and forcing relocations of communities from vulnerable coastlines[5]. Climate change impacts compound other threats, particularly land degradation, with pronounced impacts on natural ecosystems and agricultural lands. Loss of cultivated area or productivity may result in an increased reliance on imported foods; this has occurred through the decline in the yields of sweet potato, the main staple crop in rural areas. Conversion of mangrove forests has made coastlines even more vulnerable to storms; prolonged dry seasons combined with loss of forests are affecting freshwater biodiversity and water availability; and high rainfall washes sediment from poorly managed land into rivers and coastal ecosystems. Climate change by reducing ecosystem resilience and invoking change in systems that have been mostly stable over the past several centuries is recalibrating both risk and impacts associated with IAS, permitting some novel arriving species to established, rapidly expanding their ranges and population and ultimately causing further impacts to these weakened natural systems and the associated human communities. Risk and impact reduction from non-native pest organisms or IAS must be key tools utilized by Pacific communities to adapt to climate change and protect remaining critical ecosystems and their associated services[6].

The overall root cause of biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation in Solomon Islands arises from the slow progress in mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services into different sectors (including those that bring high risk of IAS incursions and impacts, as well as cause land degradation) as well as the rising economic and social aspirations of the expanding population which put increasing pressure on natural resources. It is essential to find a sustainable development path around a nature-based economy and resilient, diversified livelihoods that deliver social and economic benefits from the sustainable use of natural resources minimizing the risk of IAS incursions, reducing impacts from

established IAS and securing the integrity of land and seascapes for the benefit of current and future generations.

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[19] https://www.dolphinproject.com/blog/mass-slaughter-in-the-solomons/

[20] Vuto S, Hamilton R, Brown C, Waldie P, Pita J, Peterson N, Hof C and Limpus C (2019). A report on turtle harvest and trade in Solomon Islands. The Nature Conservancy, Solomon Islands. 34 p.

[21] Cornelio, David. (2020). Implications of traditional hunting on the megapodes and bats of Melanesia.

[22] Shepherd, C.R., Stengel, C.J., and Nijman, V. (2012). The Export and Reexport of CITES-listed Birds from the Solomon Islands. TRAFFIC Southeast Asia, Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia.

[23] https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-9326/11/5/054011

[24] http://www.issg.org/pdf/publications/2019_Island_Invasives/PrintFiles/Moverley.pdf

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Project Barriers that need to be addressed

Barrier 1: Insufficient coordination, information, tools and capacity in government to conserve globally significant biodiversity and promote and achieve land degradation neutrality: The fact that Solomon Island is an archipelago of islands and that mountains and inland forests are connected to the coastal environment means that an ecosystem-based management approach is required to conserve biodiversity and address threats from land degradation and IAS, particularly in protected and managed areas. While the key legal drivers are in place, intersectoral coordination and enforcement (in part due to lack of resources and planning) is insufficient to implement them effectively. Despite the reliance of the economy on natural resources there is no clear strategy, tools or process to mainstream the benefits of a nature-based economy and protect biodiversity and land/seascapes on which it depends across sectors. Better coordination is required between the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management & Meteorology (MECDM) and other sectoral ministries that are responsible for implementing different components of the NBSAP, since there are limited human and financial resources available in government and NGOs for biodiversity conservation and existing resources need to be used most effectively. Despite attempts to establish an NBSAP committee since 2016 it is still not fully operational and there is no national committee with a broad mainstreaming mandate that will ultimately be needed for effective implementation of the NBSAP and stemming of sectoral threats to biodiversity. Several provinces have environment-related committees[1], but these do not yet mainstream biodiversity.

With regard to land degradation, although Solomon Islands acceded to the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in 1999 so far only a draft National Action Program (NAP) has been prepared to implement the Convention and policies and practices to promote sustainable land management are in need of improvement. There is also a dearth of information on rates of land degradation, with no studies found on for example rates of soil erosion and information about soils remain dependent on a nationwide reconnaissance level assessment of soil types carried out from 1967 to 1976 (Hansell and Wall 1976), which classified soil types according to the U.S. soil classification scheme and described the physical geography, climate, soils, vegetation and agriculture opportunity areas of the country.

Land degradation neutrality (LDN) is a relatively new concept, about which there remains little awareness or adoption and thus little or no understanding of the goal, objectives, how to set the baseline, mechanisms identified/achieved, enabling environment (inter alia adoption into policies and plans, financial resources, system for monitoring progress towards LDN targets). The SAFE project presents a vital opportunity for Solomon Islands to catalyze work towards LDN, with processes that enable multi-sector coordination and the identification and resolution of policy or regulatory trade-offs, including land use planning (see Barrier 3). According to the recent World Bank PID for the Solomon Islands Agriculture and Rural Transformation Project (World Bank, 2020) ?Agricultural extension services and access to appropriate technologies, implemented through the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAL), suffer from persistent underfunding, lack of field mobility, eroding technical knowhow and staff motivation. The delay in accessing both extension and technologies is detrimental to farmers? ability to increase the cropping area and intensity, also moving away from a subsistence livelihood. The lack of extension services and technologies also holds true for the Department of Livestock and Veterinary Services (DLVS) in charge of the country?s livestock sector, as well as for the Department of Extension which is responsible for the crops sector. MAL currently employs about 300 technical staff, of which approximately 22% are female. The ratio of farmers per extension staff is too high for achieving optimal results in outreach and training. This situation is exacerbated by a lack of roads, means of transport and dispersed communities.

An Integrated Land Management Committee was created in 2021 under the GEF 5 FAO Integrated Forest Management Project (2018-2022)**[2]**. It is a national committee but with no provincial reps. However, referring to the details of this committee on the MAL website, this seems to only be a committee which will function as part of that project ? not more widely or for the longer term. Further, there is a lack of vertical coordination between national government and the provincial authorities to mainstream biodiversity and sustainable land management in a consistent and targeted way. There remain contradictions and gaps in regulations and provincial ordinances, also a lack of detailed guidance on key threats to biodiversity and ecosystem services (e.g., there are no protocols in place for addressing IAS threats to biodiversity and no provincial ordinances addressing IAS management).

There is inadequate baseline information on biodiversity or threatened species on which to base management decisions. Although there have been increasing efforts to improve understanding of the status of Solomon Island ecosystems, data is dispersed, rarely shared and becomes quickly outdated with little monitoring of trends. There remain severe gaps in knowledge, even for the most threatened or exploited species. Information technology is not used effectively and results are often not available in a form usable for decision-making. Information regarding IAS (except for some species specific to agricultural and forestry sectors) remains particularly limited and there is no guidance to support prevention nor management even in protected areas. This translates into an almost complete absence of decision support systems and plans to prioritize the use of financial resources for implementation. Finally, capacity for conservation of globally threatened and endemic species, risk and impact reductions associated with IAS and land degradation is inadequate at all levels of government, exacerbated by the challenge of limited government resources. Neither MECDM nor the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAL) have enough trained staff in key positions to carry out their mandates for biodiversity conservation, IAS prevention and management and land degradation prevention and reduction due to limited budget and both ministries must become better integrated with each other as well as other sectors, including the provincial level in part through extension services. Gross-margin analysis of crop cultivation or livestock keeping are neither existing at MAL nor at SINU, although some development projects have attempted to do selected analysis. This is partly due to the lack of systematic and recurring surveys on the respective crop productivity per hectare, per tree, or per livestock production model, and partly due to the complexity of the mixed and multi-storey cropping and farming systems used across SUI. This also applies for the subsistence livestock sector. The most common sources used for estimating production levels and/or productivity are the recent agriculture survey, reports from various localized development initiatives, and FAO data (FAO-Stat). However, since FAO data are dependent on information received from MAL, their reliability is also weak and data are often calculated and estimated rather than being based on actual field data.

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[25] Western Province, Isabel, Temotu, Malaita. Further, work to establish provincial-level PA networks will proceed under the GEF-6 EREPA project.

[26] https://solomons.gov.sb/mal-establishes-integrated-land-management-committee-ilmc/ This is a multifocal area project under climate change, biodiversity and land degradation

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Barrier 2: No comprehensive framework for managing threats and impacts from IAS that takes a risk management approach and inadequate capacity to detect and stop new IAS incursions: A harmonized and effective biosecurity structure supported by appropriate legislation, national policy and well established, long term funding mechanisms is both essential to reducing risks and impacts from IAS and is also the single most effective and efficient suite of actions which can be undertaken to strengthen

overall national security in regards to IAS. However, although Government agreed to a national 2020 target for address of threats and impacts from IAS, there is no approved strategy/plan[1] or inter-sectoral committee nor any unit or specific officer in MECDM responsible for overseeing or supporting IAS risk and impact reduction efforts (the officer responsible for species research is nominally also responsible for invasive species). There is no finalized national invasive species strategy to direct and harmonize actions amongst ministries and agencies. There is no NISSAP for the country. Consequently, there is little to no strategic and harmonized activity addressing IAS prevention nor impacts to biodiversity within the country. While MAL?s Biosecurity Department is tackling a number of IAS that threaten agricultural production there is little knowledge and no focus on the role of IAS as threats to biodiversity and land degradation. Efforts tend to focus on control of current IAS rather than a risk management approach that identifies and focusses on the highest risk invasion pathways. Capacity to avoid IAS incursions is limited by human and financial resources at international entry points and non-existent for domestic transit points, not to mention areas of high conservation and/or production value.

Despite the vast EEZ and numerous entry points, currently, biosecurity is implemented at a minimal level at national ports of entry and little or no biosecurity exists between islands or for particular elements of the land/seascape such as individual catchments or conservation areas. As of present, Customs and Biosecurity officers are only present at Honiara seaport, Honiara international airport and Noro port and Munda international airport, where their focus is on controlling import/export of wildlife rather than IAS. Other ports of entry from Papua New Guinea or Vanuatu usually only have customs officials and police or Forest officers present to verify documentation, especially for logging exports. The implementation of more comprehensive biosecurity has been constrained by various factors including poor access to scientific data and information, lack of financial and human resources including insufficient capacity, poor enforcement and compliance and lack of coordination between relevant ministries, institutions, organizations, and communities at the national level. There is an urgent need to upgrade biosecurity measures and equipment at ports and airports and in key sectors to avoid new IAS incursions and transmission between islands. Solomon Islands lacks access to good laboratories, equipment, training and best practices in order to deliver the high level of biosecurity required to stop incursions of IAS. In addition, stronger early response capacity to address incursions is needed.

Significant gaps in the county?s ability to fully address pest organisms include the lack of a high government level national IAS coordination body working across all sectors to fully coordinate and integrate IAS risk and impact reductions in a harmonized manner across sectors, the lack of a national taskforce or council comprised of experts and practitioners to advise such a body, the lack of a national multi-sectorial strategy to direction short and long term IAS efforts, documents goals and objectives and that is both implemented and updated on a regular basis, the lack of a detailed strategy for the BSI as the primary leader for addressing IAS nationwide, the lack of engagement of citizens and visitors to support IAS risk and impact reductions, the lack of Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) capacity inclusive of specific Emergency Response Plans (ERPs) tied into existing national disaster

management resources, the lack of comprehensive biosecurity for all international ports of entry, the need to implement domestic biosecurity at key transit points and other area of high risk/impacts, and dedicated long term funding to support many of these efforts and undertakings.

The most effective mechanism for addressing IAS is to prevent further incursions. Strengthening legal drivers to support cost recovery and developing and implementing more expansive fee structuring to directly support biosecurity activities will be a key way to support strengthening both domestic and international entry ports biosecurity in a long-term sustainable manner.

Barrier 3: Insufficient demonstration of the benefits of ecosystem-based approaches and incentives for communities to conserve biodiversity, adopt sustainable land management practices and reduce risks and impacts associated with IAS: Although there are examples of community-based natural resources management in Solomon Islands, few have the conservation of globally significant biodiversity, the achievement of land degradation neutrality or the effective prevention and management of IAS among their primary objectives. While the customary system is widely quoted as one of the main challenges for governance and implementation of policies, it also provides significant opportunities for community-based management approaches that can help address the lack of resources in government. However, farmers lack knowledge and experience to adopt sustainable land management (SLM) approaches and technologies which could contribute to maintaining (or increasing) crop yields thus food security and incomes. To ensure sufficient food is grown, the trend has been for uncontrolled expansion of cultivation into once virgin forest and other habitats. According to a Forest and Land Use Composition of the Solomon Islands Study in 2016, 15% of forest land had been ?disturbed? by the rotational ?swidden? agriculture system, with impacts on ecosystem services from land degradation [inter alia reduced soil organic matter (SOM) content leading to nutrient leaching hence lower fertility and productivity, reduced infiltration of rainwater leading to more rapid run-off and erosion of topsoil contaminating downstream water courses and ultimately coastal waters]. Climate change is further exacerbating the latter, with increasing frequency of high intensity of rainfall events.

Land Use Planning (LUP) is becoming increasingly important in the Pacific, to match land systems, soil types and land uses in the most rational way possible, to optimize sustainable resource development and management to meet the needs of increasing populations including work towards achieving LDN. Land-use planning at landscape scale is largely lacking. There has been a degeneration of traditional land ownership and land use decision making systems and lack of strong bottom-up approaches for community planning. While, the National Rural Land Use Policy (NRLUP) of 2015, with accompanying documents including Guidelines for Community Based Land Use Planning in Solomon Islands and Report and Recommendations to implement the NRLUP, these are yet to be endorsed by the Solomon Islands Government. This is a major constraint to catalyze the required participatory 'bottom up' planning processes, beginning at the local level, to fully utilize the experience and local knowledge of land users to identify priorities and to draw up and implement plans towards

Solomon Islands achieving LDN. An integrated approach to problem solving including land use planning at all levels would allow communities to make informed choices about their future sustainable land use, as they face the impacts of climate change and the frequency of natural disasters which confront communities, particularly affecting food production.

Similarly, there is limited experience in field application of biodiversity threat reduction, direct wildlife conservation measures or specific IAS risk and impact reduction for natural ecosystems affecting biodiversity and land degradation through ecosystem-based approaches. There are no current donor-funded projects for IAS prevention and management and control related to biodiversity threats or land degradation. In addition, in terms of IAS prevention, those activities which have been engaged are limited and have rarely taken an integrated approach in which IAS considerations are addressed on an equal footing and as an essential component of the management of other anthropogenic pressures, such as land degradation, fragmentation and pollution. In fact, these other stressors generally make natural and production systems more vulnerable to invasive species establishment and subsequent impacts and like climate change, addressing invasive species in management planning in general is needed. In order to harness community action for such approaches, it is vital to support and incentivize efforts and demonstrate how an integrated and holistic approach to manage land degradation, IAS prevention and management and a nature-based economy can improve livelihoods, support long-term planning and strengthen resilience. Few such incentive mechanisms have been tested either in marine or terrestrial ecosystems. Efforts are challenged by geographic isolation resulting in high costs. Technical resources unavailability and impeding effective enforcement and access to markets.

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Barrier 4: Inadequate awareness and knowledge exchange, and mainstreaming of women and youth to conserve biodiversity, and prevent and manage IAS and achieve LDN: The tremendous global significance of the biodiversity of Solomon Islands, the threats (many of which may remain undocumented), and the wide range of ecosystem services provided by terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystems remain poorly appreciated by most islanders, particularly by rural people who have high rates of illiteracy, but are dependent on these ecosystem services for their food security and livelihoods. Awareness and understanding about IAS, LD, SLM and CSA is limited at all levels and in sectors, which is still suboptimal and engagement overall lacking. There is currently no communication strategy in place to raise awareness of the benefits and need for conservation of globally threatened and endemic species, IAS management and SLM/CSAs. As a consequence, low value is accorded to these matters in fiscal policy instruments as reflected in the low funding allocations to MECDM and MAL, which limits the scaling up of awareness to assist the local community to adopt more sustainable lifestyles. Low awareness of risks means that there is no investment by government or by NGOs or communities in IAS management in natural ecosystems, even for the Lake Tengano World Heritage Site which has been listed as in danger from IAS. Similarly, the MAL does not invest in awareness raising, training and capacity building on SLM/CSA either for staff or land users. While environmental subjects are included in the school educational curriculum, and environmental education has been promoted by NGOs and projects since the 1990s, baseline surveys of people?s perception of biodiversity at the provincial level reveal that less than half of the population has been reached through

past awareness and educational programs. No evidence has been found during the PPG of any such surveys having been conducted regarding land degradation. There is therefore the potential that raising awareness by the SAFE project that can help in some way to mitigate the lack of resources in government for enforcement etc.

One of the major barriers to reversing LD and implementing SLM responses is the lack of institutional and human capacity at national and regional levels for monitoring and assessing LD and adoption of SLM, also for using results for learning, knowledge sharing and planning effective interventions. Many field practitioners have limited information about the range of either traditional or innovative SLM approaches and technologies that could be promoted and up scaled in each context. There is also poor information about the costs and benefits of SLM practices and likewise of the value of SLM in terms of sustaining ecosystem services (including crop yields).

Nationally, MAL is reportedly promoting a number of SLM practices to address land degradation through its research and extension programs (which as mentioned above are themselves very limited), with the aim of maintaining food security and stability, while minimizing the impacts on the environment. These include: crop diversification and mixed cropping; cover cropping (Mucuna); salt tolerant varieties; mulching; alley cropping; agroforestry; terrace farming; composting; pest and disease control; improved pasture and animal waste management. However, during the PPG it is found that due to lack of funding, SLM, CSA and LDN do not feature the MAL training/extension program. There is a very ?forester biased? perception of agroforestry in Solomon Islands (growing crops beneath timber trees until the canopy closes and prevents crop grow), which seriously limits its potential win-win-win benefits of growing multi-purpose trees (for fruit, fodder, N fixation etc.) in a sustainable system with food crops. Furthermore, the only guidance on AF found during the PPG, the Kastom Gaden Association (KGA) manual on agroforestry, dates from 2004.

Further, there is no coordinated national system where data from all institutions /organizations converge in a standardized manner; nor any web-based tools where decision makers, resource managers, and other stakeholders can access and download information on IAS. The absence of a specific unit or a full-time staff to coordinate and facilitate administration and the implementation of policy across sectors, coupled with the lack of technical capabilities and the unavailability of sound data for decision making are some of the challenges facing the establishment of Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) mechanism and operationalization and implementation of the and Emergency Response Plans (ERPs) and the species and the absence of a NISSAP is a significant gap in Solomon Island?s ability to strengthen comprehensive IAS prevention and management. Long-term funding is also needed to address critical gaps in biosecurity to effectively reduce both risk and impacts from IAS.

Sharing of knowledge on best practices and lessons learned is also a critical mechanism for assist a poorly-resourced government to move forward in its efforts to conserve biodiversity and ecosystem services and can also help to craft rules and management approaches that can be easily accepted and implemented by local people. Traditional knowledge is underutilized and offers potential for better understanding of biodiversity issues and their management. Because of the cultural and employment constraints, women and youth do not have the same opportunities as men and older people to contribute to decision-making and to take opportunities for new livelihoods. Women and men both face constraints adopting sustainable agricultural practices, especially in remote areas where agricultural extension services are limited. Women are more constrained than men when it comes to benefiting from extension services because they are less educated and have more limited access to financial services and credit. Despite these inequalities, sex-disaggregated information is rarely collected to monitor project outcomes.

Project conceptual model: The complex interacting web of factors that threaten globally significant wetland biodiversity in Bangladesh is illustrated in a situation analysis in Figure 3. This indicates the key areas (indirect and direct factors) and the points where project intervention can contribute towards a reduction in the level of threats, and therefore contribute towards the conservation of biological ecosystems and globally threatened species ? and the integrity of the ecosystems they inhabit. The main project intervention strategies are shown as yellow hexagons in Figure 3.

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[27] Work has started on drafting a national invasive alien species strategy (NISSAP), but it has not yet been finalized or adopted

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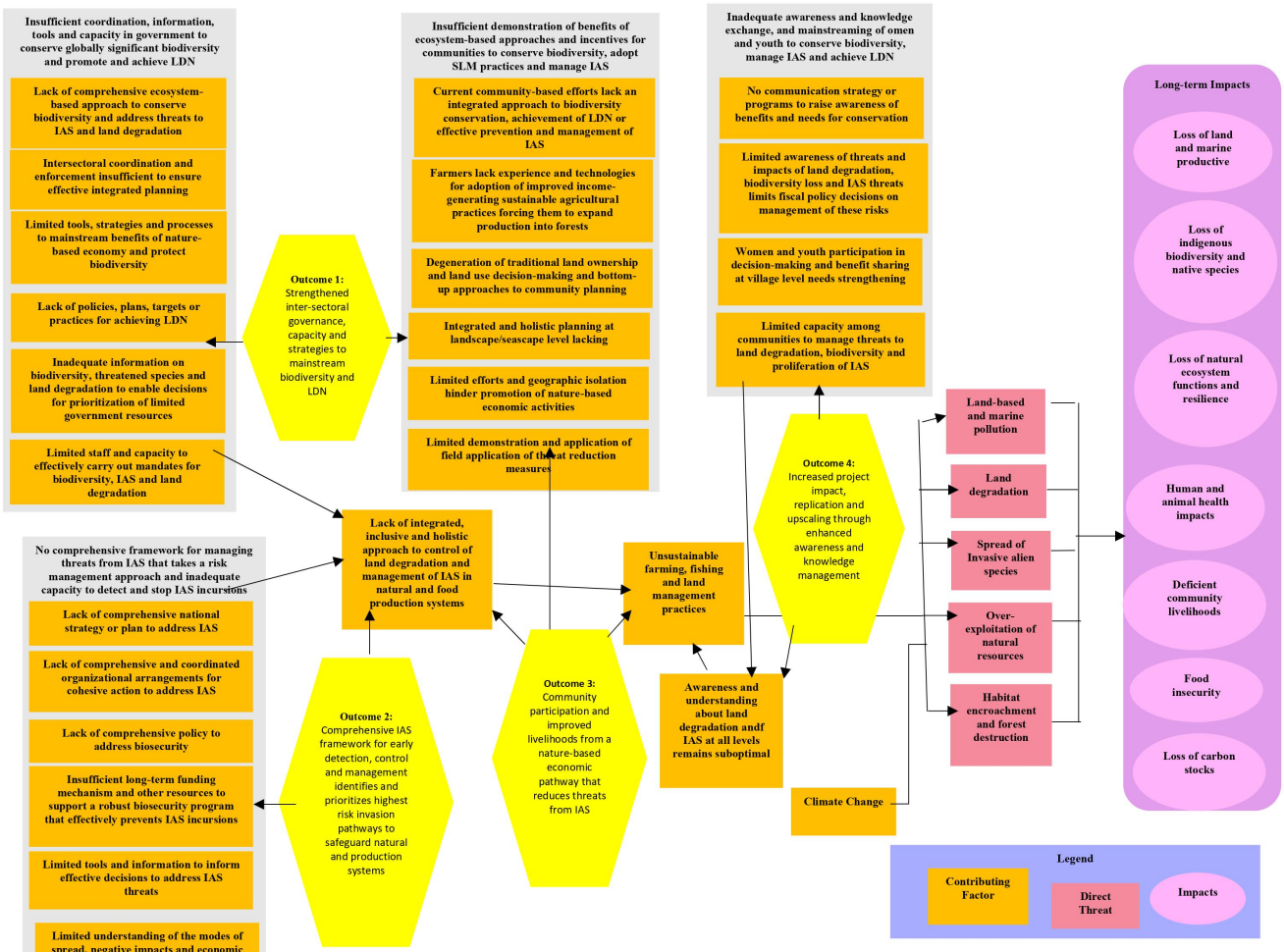

Figure 3: Problem Analysis for the project

2) Baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects

There are key government policies or plans (in place or proposed) that will support the integrated approach proposed by this project:

? The NBSAP 2016-20 is the primary policy document for biodiversity conservation. Government allocations towards MECDM have been progressively increasing, reflecting increasing government commitment to biodiversity conservation and broader recognition of its value. All nine provinces have developed Provincial Development Strategies incorporating relevant NBSAP action points. There are numerous sectoral policies and plans, several of which have been revised to align with the NBSAP, offering an opportunity to build upon for biodiversity and land degradation neutrality mainstreaming.

? Regarding sustainable land management, the Solomon Islands Agriculture and Livestock Sector Policy 2015-2019 includes proposals to enhance agricultural production and manage its environmental effects, including promoting soil conservation and access to productive land, managing climate change effects, supporting pest management and biosecurity, and organic agriculture. The National Rural Land Use Policy 2015-2020 aims to deliver integrated approaches to sustainable land use, with the vision that land use planning in Solomon Islands is inclusive, balanced and robust to ensure sustainable economic development and improved livelihoods for all Solomon Islanders by 2030. The Rural Land Use Policy includes a position that all agricultural projects should avoid negative impacts including a reduction in ecosystem services, loss of biodiversity, land degradation and increased food insecurity, and follows the principle that ecosystem-based approaches should be promoted for sustainable economic development.

? Agricultural sector growth strategy and investment plan 2021-2030 is a current plan that calls out the need for pest response mechanisms as well as IPM at the farm level. What is more plan component 1.5.3 documents seven proposed actions to support addressing IAS prevention and management, which includes partnering with other government agencies, that the project would also promote. Many of the proposed actions in the agricultural growth strategy equate in part or in full with the GEF project activities and hence the project to at least in part could assist with meeting this strategy objective. Various other sections of this document also provide actions for IAS prevention/management, including all of sub-program 1.5 which includes various components including the one mentioned above and also component 1.5.2 which interesting also includes a specific action item to support marine systems.

? With regard to IAS, an incomplete draft of a National Invasive Species Strategic Action Plan, 2016-20 (NISSAP) was prepared by the ECD with support of SPREP. While this has not yet been finalized, it shows an interest to move towards a broad comprehensive prevention, early detection, control and management framework to biosecurity and IAS management

? The National Security Strategy 2020 clearly states that risk of invasive species, pest and infectious diseases in crops and livestock is a threat to Solomon Islands. The introduction of new pests and diseases has the potential to jeopardize the economy and people?s wellbeing, and must be mitigated. The need for capacitating Solomon Islands Biosecurity and further strengthening its roles on entry points is crucial for the national security.

? National Biosafe Framework 2021 indicates the following activities as being critical to biosecurity: (i) Strengthen Surveillance and Monitoring system, Pest Identification and Certification Capacity (Updated Pest List Database (PLD). Threats of new invasive species from other countries (Cocoa Pod Borer on Bougainville); (ii) Development of an eradication program for Cocoa Pod Borer, Giant African Snail, Yellow Crazy Ants, Asian Honey Bees, Fruit Flies, Coconut Leaf Miners; (iii) Develop and strengthen the capacity of quarantine to meet International Standards and Requirements of WTO and SPS; (iv) Development of contingency plan for Bird Flu; (v) Provision of required infrastructures at identified borders - vulnerability to pest and diseases incursions and quarantine services delivery at the border; (vi) Promote information dissemination both National and International data - Notification and Publication of information materials; and (vii) Carry out pre-export inspection at export premises to minimize introduction of pests - Increase in request to import diverse products from new exporters overseas

? The National Strategy on Aquatic Biosecurity 2018-2023 supports the aquaculture sector and is implemented by the Ministry for Fisheries and Marine Resources (MFMR) which should be an essential partner in this GEF project. To implement this strategy the MFMR was to develop a taskforce and an implementation committee. We need to determine if this has happened, what actions have been taken, etc. These efforts may in part support/inform the development of an overall biosecurity strategy for the BSI and help determine cooperative arrangements between MFMR and BSI as well as other partners.

? More broadly, the National Development Strategy 2016-2035 puts in place a longer-term, whole-of-government planning framework to enable the Solomon Islands to transition to a more sustainable growth strategy, recognizing the importance and potential of nature and natural resources (e.g. tourism, agriculture, fisheries, forestry, including subsistence smallholder farming), and emphasizing the need for long-term recovery and reform to achieve the SDGs and improved social and economic livelihoods for all Solomon Islanders.

? National Ocean Policy 2019/Marine Spatial Plan(ongoing): In general, **the Solomon Islands National Ocean Policy (SINOP) is a strategic roadmap for integrated management and governance of our ocean.**

? The National Environment Management Strategy (NEMS) provides guidelines and strategies to manage our environment

? The National Species Management Plans (Dugong, Crocodile, SCGD etc.) provides the guidelines and lists of important and threatened species to come under protection.

? Wildlife Protection & Management Act 1998/Amendment 2017, in general, this act seeks to comply with obligations imposed under the convention on international trade in endangered species of wild flora and fauna and related matters.

? Protected Areas Act 2010 and Regulation 2012. This Act makes provision for the declaration of protected areas and the protection of biological diversity. It establishes the Protected Areas Advisory Committee and the Protected Areas Trust Fund. The Act regulates the conservation and management of biological resources so as to ensure biological diversity within or outside protected areas and promote the protection of ecosystems, natural habitats and the maintenance of viable populations of species in natural surroundings.

? National Waste Management and Pollution Control Strategy 2016 ? 2026, broadly this policy documents covers the management of wastes and pollution control.

? Ongoing consultation to develop Marine Ocean Plan in efforts to identify marine managed areas including PAs within the EEZ

? Awareness and Introduction on land degradation neutrality (LDN). Identify baseline and set National targets

? Integrated Forest Management in the Solomon Islands PROJECT SYMBOL: GCP/SOI/001/GFF. Broadly this project covers Integrated Land Management which aimed at, reviews and revision of outdated and ineffective policy, regulatory and legal frameworks governing land use, ii. thorough assessment of impacts of current land-use practices on biodiversity, land degradation and ecosystem services will also be conducted, and this will feed into the review and revision; providing the policy makers with reliable information to base their policies and strategies on and iii. most importantly the establishment of a multi-sectoral coordination mechanism to ensure the sectoral frameworks are streamlined and complementary rather than contradictory.

Under these broad thematic threads, the project will be supported by the following investments, baseline projects (including in proposed project demonstration landscapes), best practices and lessons:

Biodiversity conservation: A range of key legal instruments are in place. The IUCN Red List remains the main tool for assessing the status and prioritizing management of indigenous species, with further detail available for marine species via the Marine Biodiversity Conservation in the South Pacific (MACBIO) report on Biophysically Special, Unique Marine Areas of Solomon Islands**[1]** which identifies the list of marine species known to occur in the Solomon Islands with international and national obligations. Several initiatives and action plans have been launched for the conservation of different species and species groups including regional cooperation for the management of tuna fisheries**[2]** and conservation of dugong and seagrass habitats**[3]**,**[4]**; species management plans for dolphins, marine turtles**[5]**, sharks, crocodiles and the endangered Santa Cruz ground dove**[6]**; and small grants for species survey and local conservation programs issued under the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF)**[7]**. The EU/SPC/World Fish Pacific European Union Marine Program (PEUMP) project (2019-24) is helping to address fisheries species threatened with illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing. Support is being provided from 2017-22 by the UNEP/GEF/SPREP INFORM project which aims to establish a Pacific Island network of national and regional data repositories and reporting tools to support environmental planning, forecasting, and reporting requirements including an online and open-source Solomon Islands Environment Data Portal which provides a meta-database of reports and studies, including a section on biodiversity**[8]**[8].

For protected areas, the Solomon Islands Plan of Action on Protected Areas (POWPA)**[9]**[9] provides the policy tools for implementing the Protected Area Act (2010). The $36.5M GEF-5 Integrated Forest Management project**[10]**[10] supported by FAO and executed by the Ministry of Forest and Research (MFR) from 2016-20, aimed to establish protected areas covering 143,000 ha. The GEF-6 $13.2M Ensuring Resilient Ecosystems and Representative Protected Areas in the Solomon Islands (EREPA) project supported by IUCN and executed by MECDM pending GEF CEO Endorsement will build on this baseline with its objective of producing an effective ecosystem management for healthy, complementary networks of protected, productive and restored habitats in Guadalcanal, Malaita, Rennell-Bellona and Temotu. Part of this ecosystem management should be incorporation into management plans and actions IAS risk and impact reduction through linking to actions under taken in the SAFE project where they could be used as specific localized IAS demonstration sites. The EU/ACP Support Program for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) 2020-26 is supporting and improving the management and sustainable use of coastal and marine resources (e.g., bycatch and integrated ecosystem management) with a demonstration site in the central seascape (a proposed site of this project).

Community-based management of biodiversity and natural resources: Despite lack of formal protection, community-based approaches are piloted at landscape scale in many projects in both the terrestrial and marine environments, and around 6% of the coastal and 5% of the terrestrial[11][11] areas are now under community and local protection. Such approaches have been bolstered for coastal biodiversity conservation by the Solomon Islands Locally Marine Managed Area (SILMMA) and protected area network under the Coral Triangle Initiative advocated by the Ministry of Fisheries and Resources (MFMR) in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM). While specifically developed for aquaculture and implemented by the MFMR, they should be broadened to support protection of marine systems in general through coordination with Environment and BSI. MMA should have plans or strategies and IAS prevention/management that is best accomplished through linking in the already established aquatic biosecurity strategy at least as a template if not the actual driver

Many informal protected areas still require management plans and sustainable financing mechanisms, although ridge-to-reef conservation plans have been developed in Choiseul**[12]**[12] and Isabel**[13]**[13] provinces by the provincial governments and partners. The regional GEF-5 International Waters Ridge-to-Reef (R2R) project is being implemented in the Mataniko catchment area around Honiara. The Solomon Islands Community Conservation Partnership (SICCP) works closely with local communities to protect critical terrestrial ecosystems that harbour globally threatened species. The Arnavon conservation initiative (supported by TNC) in Isabel and Choiseul provinces has helped to resolve differences between divided tribal societies and enabled harmony between national laws, policies and informal customary rules and norms for conserving an endangered turtle species**[1]**. Similarly, the Lauru Land Conference of Tribal Community (LLCTC) also in Choiseul has emerged as a powerful indigenous faith-based movement with the intention to protect natural resources from unwanted exploitation, manage resources sustainably and resolve land disputes while reviving traditional cultural practices and promoting rural development. Launched in 2019, the Barana Nature and Heritage Park is a milestone for community-based conservation in Solomon Islands. Owned by the Barana Community, the park spans approximately 5,000 ha of forest area in the upper catchment of the Mataniko river, one of the largest river catchments above Honiara city. The regional EU/IUCN/SPREP Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management (BIOPAMA) project phase II (2018-23) is supporting conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and natural resources in protected areas and surrounding communities through better use and monitoring of information and capacity development on management and governance. Similarly, the Pacific Ecosystem-based Adaptation to Climate Change (PEBACC) Phase 2 (2020-23) KIWA Initiative ? a SPREP regional initiative funded by the Government of Germany, is being implemented to reduce vulnerability of people and ecosystems to climate change by investing in ecosystem-based adaptation.

[27] http://macbio-pacific.info/Resources/the-arnavon-community-marine-conservation-area-in-the-solomon-islands-a-review-of-successes-challenges-and-lessons-learned/

[28] https://www.ffa.int/

[29] Conservation strategy for dugongs and seagrass habitats in Solomon Islands. WorldFish (2018) Penang, Malaysia: WorldFish. Strategy: 2018-22

[30] https://www.thegef.org/project/enhancing-conservation-effectiveness-seagrass-ecosystems-supporting-globally-significant

[31] https://pacific-data.sprep.org/dataset/solomon-islands-national-marine-turtles-action-plan-2008-2012

[32] http://www.raypiercepacific.com/uploads/9/7/5/8/97589856/4._5d._santa_cruz_ground_dove_action_plan_2018.pdf

[33] https://www.cepf.net/our-work/biodiversity-hotspots/east-melanesian-islands

[34] https://solomonislands-data.sprep.org/

[35] https://www.cbd.int/protected/implementation/actionplans/country/?country=SB

[36] https://www.thegef.org/project/integrated-forest-management-solomon-islands

[37] Solomon Islands: Sixth National Report to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity, 2019

[38] Geoff Lipsett-Moore, Richard Hamilton, Nate Peterson, Edward Game, Willie Atu, Jimmy Kereseka, John Pita,Peter Ramohia and Catherine Siota (2010). Ridges to Reefs Conservation Plan for Choiseul Province, Solomon Islands. TNC Pacific Islands Countries Report No. 2/10. 53 pp derived from https://www.conservationgateway.org/Files/Pages/ridges-reefs conservation.aspx#sthash.17dhhaXI.dpuf

[39] Peterson, N., Hamilton, R., Pita, J., Atu, W. and R. James (2012). Ridges to Reefs Conservation Plan for Isabel Province, Solomon Islands. The Nature Conservancy Indo- Pacific Division, Solomon Islands. Report No. 1/12. 61 pp.

Combating land degradation: Poor agricultural practices are recognised as one of the key sources of land degradation and the UNDP/GEF Capacity Building for Sustainable Land Management in the Solomon Islands (CBSLM) MSP implemented from 2008-12 was an early attempt to build capacity for

SLM, and provides many lessons[1] for the design of the current project, in particular the co-design of solutions with key sectors and communities. MAL is reportedly promoting a number of SLM practices to address land degradation through its research and extension programmes, with the aim of maintaining food security and stability, while minimizing the impacts on the environment. These include crop diversification and mixed cropping, cover cropping, salt tolerant varieties, mulching, alley cropping, agro-forestry, terrace farming, composting, pest and disease control and improved pasture and animal waste management. However, during the PPG it was found that due to lack of funding, SLM and LDN do not feature the MAL training / extension programme. There is a countrywide approach to model farms (including through a strong partnership the Taiwan Technical Mission (TTM), which focused on farming skills, production and training, but this has ceased as SI switched its diplomatic ties from Taiwan to mainland China in September 2019, also KGA).A number of small projects to promote SLM and green agriculture have been funded with communities through the UNDP Small Grants Program[2]. More recently, sustainable agriculture is being integrated into the COVID-19 response and recovery initiatives to show the full potential of sustainable agriculture and green farms in livelihood resilience. To address forest degradation and loss, the government has adopted a Solomon Islands National REDD+ Readiness Roadmap 2014-2020[3] which is helping to build institutional capacity, coordinate activities and raise awareness for forest management, restoration and protection in almost all provinces. The Ministry of Forestry and Research also encourages natural regeneration of logged areas through community-based approaches with a successful pilot site in Malaita but this is on hold due to lack of resources. Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is assisting several sites in Guadalcanal with native forest regeneration that could also result in a possible scaling up in the future. The FAO/GEF-5 integrated Forest management Project incorporated restorative forestry as one of its components.

IAS management: Biosecurity Solomon Islands (BSI)[4] under the Biosecurity Act 2013 has been mandated to manage the biosecurity risks associated with the movement of goods (trade) and people into and out of Solomon Islands, although is challenged by insufficient capacity. Current focus of the BSI is to reduce risks of entry of potential agricultural pests and diseases mainly through visual screening of arriving materials but also to fumigate and follow other required SOPs for the export of crops and other materials for international markets. Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) mechanisms and Emergency Response Plans (ERPs) have been developed for agriculture with support of New Zealand and Australian Governments, with a biosecurity advisor (and laboratory) currently in the Biosecurity department reviewing legislation and establishing protocols for management of invasive species and providing training on agricultural IAS. At the national level, relevant public officers have been informed on the potential impact of IAS on native biodiversity, and a list of prohibited plant species has been published[5], although other efforts are limited compared to attention on agricultural IAS. Training on the risk of IAS incursions from ballast water was provided by SPREP in partnership with the Australia Maritime Safety Authority in 2013. More recently, an officer from ECD was recently supported by SPREP to undertake a 3-month IAS training course in Apia in 2019.

Lacking well developed resources and mechanisms for early detection and rapid response, efforts beyond ports of entry at present tend to focus on attempts to manage existing and known established pest organisms. The Biosecurity Division has a robust strategy in place for several highly impactful species affecting the agriculture sector including the Giant African snail, the Coconut Rhinoceros beetle, Cassava bacterial blight and Citrus canker. Two of these species, the Giant African snail and the Coconut Rhinoceros beetle were likely accidentally introduced the by logging industry. GAS was first reported at Honiara in 2006. It causes economic damage to a wide range of crops and ornamentals as well as native plants and has the potential to carry diseases that may impact other organisms including humans. Since its arrival, campaigns have been carried out to, first, eradicate it but once it was known to be well established efforts shifted towards management of impacts and continued attempts to reduce its spread. To date it is only confirmed to be established in Honiara and eastwards along the North coast of Guadalcanal. On the other hand, CRB has been well established in the country for many decades and an effective control strategy has been engaged with various biocontrol agents. But, a new genotype of the CRB, namely CRB-G that appears to not be kept in check by the existing biocontrol has established in Savo, North Malaita and Ngela, and has more recently been detected in Guadalcanal, with potential devastating economic implications for communities who depend on coconuts and their products for subsistence and export (approximately US$1,200 per rural household annually). The government declared a national CRB state of emergency that remains in effect, with efforts coordinated by a CRB multi-sector task force.

At a regional level, there has been significant work on IAS much of the past half century with much of the early work focusing on protecting agricultural and forestry resources. In 2009 SPREP published a guide for developing invasive species management at national levels and this guide has been utilized extensively throughout the Pacific to support NISSAP development. The Pacific Invasives Learning Network (PILN) was launched in 2006 and continues to connect professionals to share knowledge, expertise, tools, and ideas across the Pacific[6]. Similarly, the Pacific Invasive Partnership (PIP) is the umbrella regional coordinating body for experts and practitioners working on IAS issues in more than one country, and acts as the invasive species working group of the Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation[7]. In 2009, SPC and SPREP produced Guidelines for Invasive Species Management in the Pacific[8], the framework used throughout the Pacific for structuring NISSAPs. SPREP is providing the Pacific Regional Invasive Species Management Support Service (PRISMSS) a coordinating regional mechanism to facilitate the scaling up of IAS on-the-ground management operations in the Pacific. The GEF/UNEP/SPREP project ?Prevention, control and management of invasive alien species in the Pacific Islands? (GEF-PAS) was implemented with ten national partner agencies (not including Solomon Islands) from 2011 to 2016. In 2019, the GEF/UNEP/SPREP ?Strengthening national and regional capacities to reduce the impact of Invasive Alien Species on globally significant biodiversity in the Pacific? project was approved for implementation, further building potential for stronger Pacific regional coordination on IAS. All these initiatives, along with other GEF-financed national IAS projects across the Pacific and other SIDS, offer significant opportunities for knowledge-sharing.

Green livelihoods: Community-based management offers one of the best opportunities for safeguarding biodiversity and ecosystem services, preventing and managing IAS on a localized scale, and reducing land degradation, but there are still few examples where livelihood benefits/opportunities can be demonstrated from nature-based economic pathways or adoption of SLM practices. A study by FSPI in 2007, stated that the lack of documentation was common for a lot of sustainable livelihood projects conducted in parts of the Solomon Islands. The lessons learned were related to the three factors: conducting an initial baseline, leadership extent support provided during project implementation and the three should be social cohesive at the community. In recent years, a National Marine Ecosystem Service Valuation[9] showed that aside from the tuna industry, the majority of Solomon Islands? marine ecosystem service benefits come from subsistence and small-scale fishing for local sale, tourism, and protection from erosion and flooding (avoided costs)[10], similar findings are likely for terrestrial ecosystems, although they have not been assessed. A mangrove livelihoods project in Malaita, Western Province and other parts of Solomon Islands**[11]**, demonstrated the benefits of mangroves to communities, and locally driven initiatives to replant and rehabilitate mangrove forests are gaining strength. Similarly, there have been efforts to conduct dolphin conservation awareness while discouraging traditional hunting of dolphins by providing alternative livelihoods such as ecotourism.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic (which has currently put a halt to tourism), the tourism industry was small but expanding with expenditures from foreign visitors amounting to about US$ 68 million per year (with the marine environment contributing around 22% of this amount)[12], contributing to both employment and government tax revenue. If managed responsibly and as a part of resilient, diversified livelihoods, ecotourism can be a lucrative and sustainable ecosystem service. Between the 10-year period (2005-2015), international tourist arrivals have increased 188.3%**[13]**. Because, tourists generally seek out healthy ecosystems, tourism initiatives can create incentives for communities to protect and even rehabilitate ecosystems from IAS, logging, mining and destructive types of inshore fishing that could negatively impact tourism benefits. For example, in the Arnavon Community Marine Conservation Area (40,000 ha, established in 1995) there have been efforts to diversify sources of income and nutrition for the fishing communities, including making handicrafts for visiting tourists, seaweed harvesting, and small-scale agriculture**[14]**[14]. Similarly, the Tetepare Descendants? Association (TDA) has helped indigenous landholders resist pressures from industrial logging companies by pioneering community conservation agreements whereby landholders and their communities are provided with alternative livelihood opportunities in exchange for a commitment to the sustainable management of marine and forest resources, including a community ecotourism enterprise that provides jobs for community members**[15]**[15]. There are many other opportunities for such initiatives, for example in the Marovo lagoon in the New Georgia Islands (the largest saltwater lagoon in the world), where tourism may offer incentives for the national and provincial governments and the community to stop illegal logging and take forward the idea of UNESCO designation as was considered previously. While feasibility assessments are needed, and tourism needs to be considered as

part of a broader suite of resilient, nature-based livelihoods, such opportunities offer the potential to support COVID-19 green economic recovery in accordance with recent UN World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) guidance and technical assistance on tourism recovery and resilience building.

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[40] http://macbio-pacific.info/Resources/the-arnavon-community-marine-conservation-area-in-the-solomon-islands-a-review-of-successes-challenges-and-lessons-learned/

[41] https://www.thegef.org/project/ldcsids-portfolio-project-capacity-building-sustainable-land-management-solomon-islands - see Terminal evaluation

[42] https://sgp.undp.org/component/sgpprojects/?view=allprojects&country=SOI&paging=1&limitstart=0

[43] file:///C:/Users/Owner/Downloads/SI%20REDD%20Roadmap.pdf

[44] http://www.biosecurity.gov.sb

[45] http://www.biosecurity.gov.sb/Resources/list-of-prohibitedplants

[46] https://www.sprep.org/invasive-species-management-in-the-pacific/piln

[47] http://www.glispa.org/glispa-bright-spots/31-thematic-bright-spots/invasive-species/152-pacific-invasive-partnership#:~:text=Pacific%20Invasive%20Partnership%20(PIP)%20is,Islands%20Roundtable%20for%20Nature%20Conservation.

[48] https://www.sprep.org/att/publication/000699_RISSFinalLR.pdf

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Table 1: Summary of Baseline Activities and Additional Complementarity

Baseline Project/Activities	Key Objectives of baseline project/activities related to the GEF project	Additional Complementarity with proposed GEF project

GEF-UNDP Integrating Climate Change Adaptation into Sustainable Development Pathways (2021-2025)	To enhance management and governance of priority protected areas by addressing existing limitations, strengthening the legal framework to achieve effective biodiversity conservation; supporting local communities to enhance livelihood opportunities through conservation related activities and contribute to assessment of selected PAs, including community managed conservation areas. Grant facilities available for small and medium actions for PA authorities, NGOs and local community organizations to address priorities	The GEF 7 will build on the learning of the baseline project, in particular on lessons learned in particular on strengthening community managed CFMAs, CMMAs and other conservation initiatives to empower individual villages and/or groups of resource uses to manage their respective parts of the community PAs as well as improving co-management and community decision-making. This would necessitate strengthening existing of community decision-making structures for management of the PAs, including in particular to take collective agreements and actions for setting up seasonal sanctuaries or no-take zones to protect fish breeding and spawning, defining sustainable harvest limits and species to be harvested, regulation of fishing gear and harvest times, and other measures that the community deem necessary to maintain the favorable ecological conditions in the landscapes and seascapes. It would also benefit from experiences of the small grant programs run by NGOs and local community groups that would be very relevant to the GEF 7 project as well as sharing information of women and men specific climate resilient alternative blue/green livelihoods

MISCCAP - Climate Change Program ? Managing Invasive Species for Climate Change Adaptation with SPREP Cooperation (supported by Government of New Zealand) 202-2024 (NZD 2.48 million)	The project objective is to support management of IAS and ensure climate change adaptation through the provision of specialist support, technical assistance, advice and training on invasive species management to PICTs, supporting implementation of priority invasive species management actions and regional work programs, especially Predator Free Pacific (PFP) and Resilient Ecosystems-Resilient Communities (RERC); providing direct operational support for priority in-country projects based on existing Standard Operating Procedures and protocols and increasing awareness and research activities in relation to IAS	While, the baseline project focuses on climate adaptation as a means to prevent the spread and manage existing IAS infestations, particularly in production landscapes/seascapes, it will in provide good lessons and learning on the planning and community engagement process for climate adaption that can be integrated into the GEF 7 project, particularly in terms of planning for the community production areas. The GEF 7 project, unlike the baseline project, will look at management and adaptation in a very integrated approach.

PEBACC - Pacific Ecosystems-based Adaptation to Climate Change 4.9 million EURO	The overall intended outcome of the project is to ensure that the EbA concept is integrated into development, climate change adaptation and natural resource management policy and planning processes in three Pacific island countries (including the Solomon islands) providing replicable models for other countries in the region. The key outputs of the PEBACC project are: ecosystem and socio-economic resilience analysis and mapping (ESRAM) study ? baseline study for adaptation planning at national, provincial and community levels; ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) options assessment ? EbA options analyzed, prioritized and plans developed; EbA plans implemented with demonstrated benefits; and communications and outreach products developed to promote integration of EbA options into climate change policies, plans and projects.	The GEF 7 will draw on a number of lessons from the PEBACC project, in particular in terms of the lessons from the activity at Sasamuga village in Solomon Islands that illustrates a ridge-to-reef management approach that brings together SPREP, the US Agency for International Development (USAID), and the local community through the non-governmental organization, Lauru Land Conference of Tribal Community (LLCTC). This is extremely relevant to the GEF 7 project in that the EbA approach to restore and protect a degraded water catchment area and manage the nearby ecosystem can provided for basis for sustainable management of critical conservation areas in the GEF 7 sites. The approach in the PEBACC to work with community members to limit agriculture activities in the critical catchment areas and establishing a tree seedling nursery for tree planting activities. The project?s focus on the watershed catchment is unique that has potential for replication in the GEF 7 project.

FOVEP ? Forest Value Enhancement Project and Tourism ? USAID (2022 start)	The forestry enhancement project will provide Solomon Islands? communities with economically viable alternatives to unsustainable logging practices and generate more eco-friendly, reliable benefits from the country?s natural forests.	The USAID FOVEP project will be relevant to the GEF 7 project in that it will seek to work through an economically viable community based resource management program that aligns and takes into account the customary uses of forests resources and to leverage the direct results of alternative forest management as well as facilitate incremental improvements in the regulatory and institutional framework in the forestry sector. The GEF 7 project will coordinate with the Ministry of Forest and Research (MFR) in seeking to build viable alternative approaches to forest utilization and management and transition to a more sustainable source of economic growth apart from logging. The CFMAs supported by the GEF 7 project can incorporate some of the innovations from the FOVEP
MSSIF - Mekem Strong Solomon Islands Fisheries ? funded by New Zealand Government (Phase 3) 2020- 2023 (NZ$6.9 million)	The Phase 3 program aims to overall ensure that Solomon Islands is a strong voice on issues of fisheries management, fisheries are managed more sustainably and sector diversified, revenue from fisheries is increased and growth in the fisheries sector provides more job opportunities, particularly for youth	The GEF 7 project will directly benefit from the MSSIF in that it would enable the sharing of lessons and best practices in enhancing gender equity in the fisheries sector, benefit from the improved leadership and systems strengthened in the MFMR, build on opportunities promoted for ensuring food security and improved livelihood practices and enable replication of sustainable fisheries practices promoted through MSSIF. As MFMR would be an important partner in the GEF 7 project, this will enable coordination and collaboration across both projects

PROP - Pacific Regional Oceanscape Program	The project entails (i) Sustainable Management of Oceanic Fisheries and (ii) Sustainable Management of Coastal Fisheries Of specific relevance to the GEF 7 project is the coastal fisheries activities, in particular, the development of a nationwide frame survey to develop a baseline study of the coastal fisheries; carrying out of assessments of coastal fisheries resources and environmental risk assessments of coastal fisheries; and development and implementation of management plans for key fisheries species, and provision of technical assistance to: (i) review coastal fisheries regulations and assist government to develop and implement fisheries ordinances in line with the Fisheries Management Act; and (ii) monitor said management plans and (iii) carrying out a program of activities designed to support the linkage of coastal fish products to regional markets, such program to include identification of key domestic fisheries development projects with linkages to regional markets and review of current trade practices	This project that is implemented by MFMR (also a key partner of the GEF 7 project) will help in providing methodology for baseline study of the coastal resources (corals, trochus and clams) in the project seascapes, support community fisheries management plans management plans which are extremely relevant for the GEF 7 project and help strengthen legal and policy frameworks that are critical for application under the GEF 7 project. The GEF 7 project team will closely work with MFMR to build training and capacity for project staff to undertake the baseline studies and the management planning for the community marine management areas

USAID - Strengthening Competitiveness, Agribusiness, Livelihoods and Environment (SCALE) Program USD 25,000,000	The program focuses on the Malaita Province in Solomon Islands. The SCALE Program will strengthen the enabling environment to unlock economic opportunity and increase trade; improve natural resource management, including forest governance; promote agribusiness and small enterprise development; and expand critical small-scale infrastructure and essential services. In particular, the project entails empowering communities to effectively participate in decisions about the use of community-owned forests, and to design and implement initiatives to conserve and effectively manage these forests, ensuring increased community economic benefit from the forests that they own through a combination of income-generating activities and conservation concessions and strengthening the capacity of the Malaita Provincial Government to effectively plan, manage and protect forests, building a network of Natural Resource Champions in the national and provincial governments and sharing SCALE-NRM lessons in Malaita with other provinces throughout the country.	The USAID program covers one of the 5 project provinces (Malaita Province). That will require close coordination between the 2 projects in particular to ensure synergies, build cooperation and collaboration and ensure the sharing of lessons, collaborate in training and technical support and build on the strengths of each project. During the landscape/seascape planning exercise in the Malaita province, the GEF 7 will make special efforts to include the SCALE team in common planning exercises so as to ensure full complementarity and cooperation. In particular, the relevance of the both projects is that they will work through the Provincial Governments to support community conservation initiatives within the forests, including those managed by the community themselves and support a green livelihood program.

Pacific Island Forest Restoration Initiative	The Pacific Island Forest Restoration Initiative (PIFRI) supports enhancement of capacity of key developing Pacific Island countries to plan, implement, and monitor restoration initiatives for the continual provision of ecosystems goods and services from forested ecosystems, improved carbon sequestration, and strengthened resilience to climate change.	The GEF 7 project will benefit from USFS?s facilitation of regional exchanges and other capacity-building activities f to support their restoration activities.
World Bank ? Agriculture and Rural Transformation project ($15 million) ? start 2022	The objective of the project is to improve the livelihood of smallholder farmers in selected commodities through agribusiness partnerships, its related productive infrastructure and improved extension services.	This project is extremely relevant to the GEF 7 project in that it will work towards building and strengthening institutions of smallholder farmers through improved agriculture extension and advisory services, appropriate technologies leading to higher productivity and production, value chain commercialization through agribusiness partnerships and innovations to improve value chains of selected commodities, and building an ecosystem for facilitating access to finance by POs from commercial banks and increased private sector engagement. The GEF 7 project will benefit from the World Bank project particularly through the value chain activities, agricultural productivity technologies and extension services that can contribute to improved incomes and livelihoods for the communities living in the 12 project landscapes/seascapes

SPREP -Committing to sustainable waste actions in the Pacific (SWAP) 2020-2023 Agence Fran?aise de D?veloppement (AFD) ? 3 million EURO	The activities of this project are aimed to prevent environmental degradation through proper management of wastes, development of resilience to climate change, conservation of ecosystem and biodiversity, improvement of the quality of life of the people dependent on the quality of the natural environment for subsistence such as fishing, tourism and agricultural sectors. Pilot projects that have been financed support a Advanced Recovery Systems for sustainable financing, development of national management plans, storage facilities, collection, treatment and recycling, and disposal systems for used oil management coastal clean-ups and data collection for marine debris management, and scoping study, rehabilitation and climate proofing of selected disposal facilities for disaster waste management	The GEF 7 will benefit through coordination and sharing of lessons on waste management (particularly in the coastal areas and reefs and community conservation initiatives related to fisheries, tourism and sustainable agricultural practices

Integrated Forest Management in the Solomon Islands PROJECT SYMBOL (FAO - GEF) up to 2023	To support biodiversity conservation through expansion, enhanced management and financial sustainability of the country?s developing protected area network; sustainable and integrated landscape management targeting productive mixed-use corridor and buffer zone landscape; improved forest and natural resource management by local communities (e.g. including gender dimensions of non-timber forest product harvesting), and; the restoration and enhancement of carbon stocks in forest and non-forest lands. The project seeks to strengthen and complement efforts by the government of the Solomon Islands and its partners to promote new approaches to sustainable forest management that are socially viable, economically feasible, and environmentally sound.	This is particularly relevant for the GEF 7 project in terms of learning and exchange visits related to landscape management planning for communities, gender mainstreaming processes, forest management (particularly HCVFs) and sustainable harvest approaches

EU/SPC/World Fish Pacific European Union Marine Program (PEUMP) project (2019-24) 45 million EURO	Promotes sustainable management and sound ocean governance through a holistic and multi-sectoral approach contributing to social, economic and environmental development in the Pacific, as well as biodiversity protection and promoting the sustainable use of fisheries and other marine resources. Implemented in 15 Pacific island countries	The 12 landscape/seascapes targeted by the GEF 7 project will benefit in terms of assessing methods for measurement of sustainable fisheries harvest techniques, methods for monitoring harvest rates and applying voluntary harvest volumes and self-enforcement. The GEF 7 project can make use of the capacity building and training modules for regulation of fisheries activities, build on the private-community partnerships for sustainable fisheries management, partnerships with NGOs for increasing awareness of need for behavior change, use of spatial planning tools for the landscape/seascape mapping and management planning and tools for gender mainstreaming
GEF-6 $13.2M Ensuring Resilient Ecosystems and Representative Protected Areas in the Solomon Islands (EREPA)	The objective of the GEF project is to ensuring resilient ecosystems and representative protected areas in the Solomon Islands (EREPA)	The IUCN EREPA project will bring valuable lessons in ecosystem management and restoration, declaration of terrestrial protected areas, and their effective management and improved Land Management in Rural production landscapes. The GERF 7 PMU will coordinate with the Project Management Team of EREPA to share lessons, best practices and other tools that were used to promote effective PA and land management
Risk Informing Development in the Solomon Islands - Model Farms to Improve Nutritional Disorders (2021-2025)	The objective is to address the risks from climate change and disasters and build the resilience of communities across the country	This project will provide valuable examples of minimum model garden criteria, Integrated farming systems, particularly in sites with high rates of NCDs and high risk areas (salinity, drought, flooding) that would be relevant to building into the SLM activities under GEF 7

African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States Multilateral Environmental Agreements III -ACP MEAs 3 (2021-2023)	The objective is to promote environmental sustainability in ACP countries by strengthening environmental governance and the implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs). The target MEAs are the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions (BRS) and indirectly the United Nations Convention to Combat Diversification (UNCCD) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).	The GEF 7 project will benefit from lessons and learning that could be replicated in the following areas: 1. Agroforestry and sustainable forestry management 2. Promotion of agrobiodiversity and organic farming methods and 3.Pesticide risk reduction and biological control.
GEF Small Grants Programme Operational Phase 7 (2020-2024)	To promote and support innovative, inclusive and scalable initiatives, and foster multi-stakeholders? partnerships at the local level to tackle global environmental issues in priority landscapes and seascapes. The key thematic areas currently being addressed are: (1) community-based conservation of threatened ecosystems and species, (2) sustainable agriculture and fisheries and food security, (3) low-carbon energy access co-benefits, (4) local to global coalitions for chemicals and waste management, (5) catalysing sustainable urban solutions, (6) CSO-Government-Private Sector Policy and Planning Dialogue Platforms, (7) Enhancing social inclusion and (8) Monitoring and Evaluation and Knowledge Management.	The GEF 7 Project can collaborate and learn from landscape/seascape activities implemented throughout Solomon Islands, in particular related to community conservation activities, sustainable agriculture and fisheries practices, and monitoring and knowledge management

LECD ? Community Solar Fisheries (US1,280,000)	Community Solar Freezer and Fisheries Centre.	This project will target communities in Lau lagoon in Malaita, which is one of the targeyt sites for the GEF 7 project, so provides an excellent opportunity to enable complementarity and coordination across the 2 projects, in particular as the provision of solar frezeers are important for promotion of livelihood activities
MAL: Biosecurity Program involving management and control of Alien Invasive Species in the Solomon Islands for six years based on annual estimates	This is the SI Governments support towards control and management of Coconut Rhinoceros Beetles (CRB), an IAS, causing havoc to our coconut plantation. This support is in the form development budget under the Biosecurity Division in Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock. The work is focused in every Province in the Solomon Islands where CRB is present. This support is based on annual budget towards biosecurity work involving control and management of IAS in the country.	While, the GEF 7 project will likely not directly deal with the CRB issue, the MAL project has benefits that will accrue to the GEF 7 project in that it will support the control and management of a key IAS species
World Bank ? Solomon Islands Community Benefit sharing project	The project development objective is to establish the institutional arrangements and capacity for Benefit Sharing Communities to manage a share of the revenues from the operation of a large-scale infrastructure investment project and to improve their basic service s and skills for income generation during the construction period.	The activities of the World Bank project will be complementary to the GEF 7 project in that it would provide critical community infrastructure and basic skills development that would be benefit communities that participate in the GEF 7 project

UNEP/GEF/SPREP INFORM project	This project involves building National and Regional Capacity to implement Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) by strengthening planning and State of Environment Assessment and Reporting in the Pacific Project (referred to as the Inform Project)	Inform project is helping set up national environmental data portals in 14 Pacific island countries and part of the assistance package include laptops and software programmes to get the data management portals set up and sustained that will complement activities proposed in the GEF 7 project
JICA - Capacity Development for Sustainable Forest Resource Management in Solomon Islands 2017-2022	Project purpose is to enhance the capacities of MOFR to implement Sustainable Forest Resource Management (SFRM) in Solomon Islands. There are three projects, 1. development of MOFR?s capacities to formulate policy to promote SFRM, 2. enhancement of coordination and collaboration among MOFR and other stakeholders and 3. implementation of community based SFRM activities at pilot sites.	This project is completing this year but has a lot of relevance to GEF 7 in the Sustainable Land Management sector of the project. There is a lot the GEF 7 can learn from and use the model in the JICA project.

EU-IUCN Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management (BIOPAMA) project - phase II 2018-2023 (US$1,623,865)	The overall objective of this project is to contribute to improving the long-term conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and natural resources in the Pacific ACP region in protected areas and surrounding communities through better use and monitoring of information and capacity development on management and governance.	This is relevant to the goals of the GEF 7 project in that it will provide learning and best practices related tro management of PAs, monitoring of PAs etc. that would be uyseful to the GEF 7 project.
KIWA Initiative - Pacific Ecosystem-based Adaptation to Climate Change PHASE 2 (US4,000,000)	SPREP- Focuses on Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Fiji The objectives of the project are to: i) reduce vulnerability of people and ecosystems to climate change by investing in ecosystem-based adaptation action that extends and builds on the solid foundation established by Pacific Ecosystem Based adaptation to Climate Change (PEBACC) project in Fiji, Vanuatu and Solomon Islands.	The GEF 7 project will coordinate with SPREP to share lessons, learning and training opportunities particularly in relation to measures to enhance community resilience to climate change

[49] http://macbio-pacific.info/Resources/solomon-islands-national-marine-ecosystem-service-valuation/

[50] http://macbio-pacific.info/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Solomons-MESV-Summary-Digital-LowRes.pdf

[51] Mangrove management in Solomon Islands: Case studies from Malaita Province. Albert, J.A., Schwarz, A.M. (2013)

CGIAR Research Program on Aquatic Agricultural Systems. Penang, Malaysia. Policy Brief: AAS-2013-14

[52] http://macbio-pacific.info/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Solomons-MESV-Summary-Digital-LowRes.pdf

[53] https://www.statistics.gov.sb/statistics/visitor-arrivals

[54] https://www.sprep.org/attachments/VirLib/Regional/community-based-action-sids.pdf

[55] https://www.sprep.org/attachments/VirLib/Regional/community-based-action-sids.pdf

3) The proposed alternative Scenario with description of expected outcomes and components

The project objective is to ensure that Solomon Islands indigenous species and ecosystems are at reduced risk from invasive alien species, land degradation and unsustainable resource use as a result of effective government enabling and capacity, community participation and resilient blue/green livelihoods. The intent of the project is to equip and empower local communities to safeguard the country?s native biodiversity, natural ecosystems, ecosystem services and food production systems from IAS and unsustainable land use practices (in particular those practices that promote and sustain invasive species, also those which restore and maintain fertility of currently degraded agricultural lands through climate smart agriculture approaches). To achieve these objectives, knowledge needs to be both built and shared effectively throughout the country and that residents and visitors need to be aware of IAS and land and resource degradation issues, but even more importantly engaged and empowered to play a significant role of addressing existing pest and their issues as well as taking steps to ensure that new pests do not spread or establish and alerting authorities to any suspected incursions of novel organisms.

The project, first off recognizes that strengthening efforts to reduce risk and impacts associated with IAS and unsustainable resource use and enhancing safeguarding requires addressing gaps at the national level with a focus on both prevention and management efforts in a harmonized, cross sectorial structured manner that is supported by legislation, policy and long term funding, enabling the strengthening of safeguarding tools and mechanism and the implementation, maintenance and further developing of all safeguarding components to ensure the full and adequate implementation of the NISSAP (when it is developed) related IAS national documents and policies, and further future endeavours that may be undertaken. The GEF alternative will aim to remove the barriers to the long-term solution of strengthened prevention and control of IAS, also restore degraded agricultural lands through SLM/CSA through (1). Enhancing coordination and promote improved tools, information and capacity in government to support sustainable land management, work towards the achievement of land degradation neutrality (LDN) and mainstreaming biodiversity in decision-making and planning processes; (2). Develop a national framework (NISSAP) for prevention and management of threats from IAS, by building capacity for IAS risk management (rather than exclusively focusing on control of IAS) and improving biosecurity measures at points entry to the country to prevent the entry of invasive species into the country to reduce the risk of IAS entering and establishing; (3) Develop a national framework to catalyze implementation of LDN by articulating the goals and objectives,

setting the baseline / mechanism toward LDN, creating an enabling environment and supporting development of a suitable system for monitoring neutrality; (4) Effective management of selected landscape/seascapes for biodiversity, soil and water conservation and food security whilst ensuring that IAS and LD risks are minimized across sectors through a holistic framework that embraces the fundamental role of ecological integrity. This is intended to be delivered primarily through the empowerment of stakeholders, including local communities to maximize ownership and long-term sustainability and promoting opportunities for nature-based economic livelihood development; and (5) Improving communication and awareness on the linkages and benefits of conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services with the food security, economic wellbeing and prosperity of rural communities, recognizing the critical role that women and youth can play in this effort.

The project also recognizes that the demonstration landscapes/seascapes underpin the lives and livelihoods of many local communities, including women, men, youth and indigenous communities and that implementation of a coherent strategy to promote effective and sustainable IAS prevention, sustainable land management towards LDN and development of a blue/green economy is an integral part of the solution. The project seeks to achieve this solution to improve management and conservation of forest, agricultural, coastal and marine ecosystems and livelihoods using a landscape approach. The intention of the project is also to effectively reduce risks and impacts associated with IAS, unsustainable land management and other disruptive resource use activities in that knowledge needs to be both built and shared effectively throughout the country and that residents and visitors need to be aware of IAS issues, but even more importantly engaged and empowered to play a significant role of addressing existing pest and their issues as well as taking steps to ensure that new pests do not spread or establish and alerting authorities to any suspected incursions of novel organisms.

? Ensuring that at harmonized cross sectoral national level policy, planning, coordination and capacity are in place to support implementation of a NISSAP, this project, and other relevant drivers to ensure long term nationwide coordination of IAS prevention and management activities;

? Strengthening the safeguarding at both national and localized levels to minimize IAS risk and reduce IAS impacts through both prevention and management actions;

? Introduce the goals and objectives of LDN at all levels, develop the LDN baseline [measuring the LDN indicators on land cover (LCC), land productivity (NPP) and soil organic carbon (SOC)], create an enabling environment for LDN, empower communities to halt and reverse LD through rehabilitation and monitor progress towards the Solomon Islands LDN goals;

? Furthering a *holistic and integrated land and seascape approach* for safeguarding native biodiversity, natural ecosystems and food security rather than an exclusive sector- centric approach;

? Supporting and implementing a *participatory/consultative bottom-up project planning and implementation approach* that maximizes community ownership and long-term sustainability; ?

? Supporting *decentralized planning and management by communities, local district administration using the existing traditional decision-making processes* as the building blocks for integration of localized IAS prevention and management and sustainable resource use that is commensurate with sustainable natural resources and climate risk management; ?

? *Strengthening capacities* of communities, women and youth, local administration and other key stakeholders (including the private sector) within a cross-sectoral and holistic planning framework to address IAS and LD related concerns;

? Improving *coordination and collaboration* between local administration and national sector agencies to deliver technical expertise extension and best practices for control, management and eradication of IAS and achievement of LDN;

? Mainstreaming IAS prevention and management into key development sectors (forestry, agriculture, fisheries, etc.) and management of the interface between natural areas (terrestrial and marine) and surrounding community productive areas through strengthening of community-managed marine, terrestrial and integrated sustainable management areas;

? Ensuring that in its development and implementation, gender is mainstreamed so that the project contributes to equality and equity, through the creation of equitable opportunities and benefits for both women and men

? Creating *an effective knowledge base* that builds on successful lessons and experiences from previous and on-going programs and projects; ?

? Ensuring an *adaptive management approach* that considers ecological, demographic, social, safeguards, market, technological and economic factors at IAS control, management and eradication, and LD control and management and

? Selectivity with respect to interventions and locations within the catchments to demonstrate cost-effective SLM and IAS prevention and management that at least in some cases may be replicated elsewhere

The expected impacts of the above will be to achieve the following desired outcomes:

? The overall effectiveness of government efforts to conserve biodiversity, reduce and restore degraded lands and ensuring mainstreaming across other sectors;

? Enhanced capacity of government officials and staffs in all sectors will lead to improved delivery of mandates and greater implementation and enforcement of legislation;

? Enhanced capacity of communities, women, youth and indigenous communities in SLM/CSA and biodiversity conservation techniques and approaches lead to greater engagement and participation in achieving enhanced crop yields/rural food security and conservation outcomes;

? Improved awareness and knowledge on the links between biodiversity and sustainable natural resource use and economic wellbeing will help facilitate behavioural shifts and increase support for biodiversity conservation and LDN across communities, government ministries in the range of relevant sectors, NGOs and private sector;

? Sustained economic incentives, resilient and sustainable livelihoods can bring about desired shifts in behaviour and uptake in SLM/CSA and biodiversity conservation practices;

? Improved benefits from blue/green economic opportunities through SME and livelihood promotion can transform biodiversity and SLM impacting sectors) to be more biodiversity- and land-friendly;

? Improved biosecurity measures to prevent new IAS entry and enhanced prevention and management of established IAS will promote stronger and more sustainable communities, ecosystems and associated economies, health and security while ensuring that initiatives undertaken regarding climate change are more resilient with improved potential for successful outcomes.

The above impact expectations have informed the project?s components and approach which is based on the premise that biodiversity loss, IAS and land degradation are fundamentally inter-connected and can be successfully tackled by addressing them simultaneously in ways that deliver benefits to local communities. The project objective will be achieved via four interrelated and complementary strategies (Project Components comprising Outcomes and Outputs) that focus on removing the four key barriers that constrain the accomplishment of the desired long-term solution (Figure 3) by means of intervention pathways shown in the theory of change diagram (Figure 4). Indicators and assumptions for the accomplishment of expected Outcomes under the respective Components are given in the Project Results Framework.

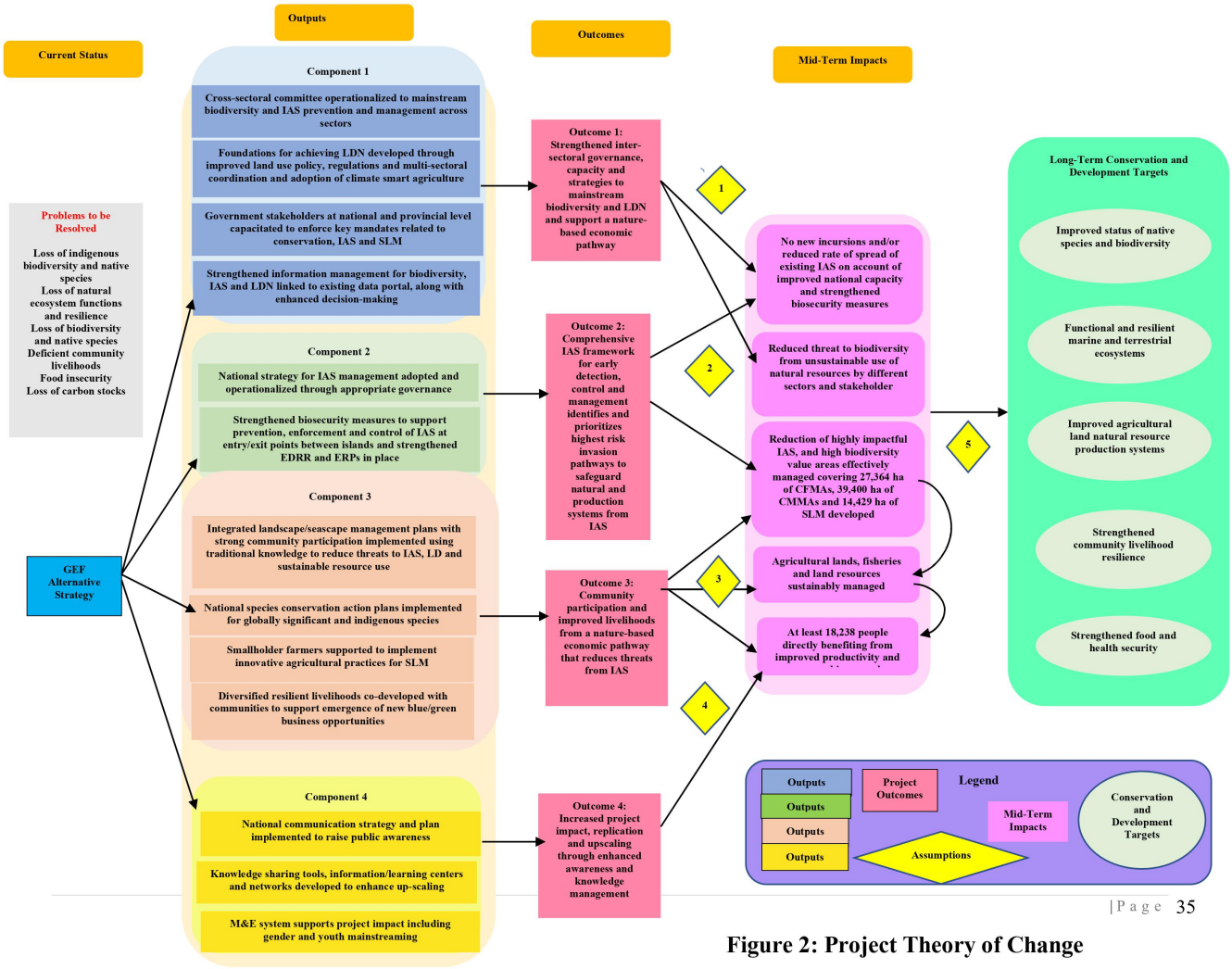

Figure 2: Project Theory of Change

Table 2: Key assumptions underpinning the Theory of Change

Number in Figure	Assumption	Notes and References

1	There is political support for the strengthening the legal, governance and institutional framework for detection, control of IAS and unsustainable development activities	The Solomon Island government is placing a strong emphasis on ensure improved management of its land and seascapes as well as preventing, controlling, and managing IAS in the country. This is to be achieved through improved coordination across different sectoral agencies and between national and provincial entities, establishing foundation for LDN (and prevention of IAS proliferation from bad land use practices) and improving information management systems. The government?s commitment towards ensuring sustainable management of landscape/seascapes is expressed in the NBSAP as part of the strategic priorities and supported by specific actions. Since the adoption of the NBSAP, a number of government and donor funded activities have been implemented in the country.
2	The developed capacities of governmental (particularly agencies that would be responsible for biosecurity) and supporting collaboration, coordination and technologies are sufficient to create a viable and effective means to prevent IAS entry into the country and transmission across islands	In line with the above, there is an increasing realization that there is a need for a national strategy for management of IAS in the country, strengthen biosecurity measures at ports of entry and across islands and improved caopacity to respond to emergency IAS intrtusions). To support this, a critical aspect of the project is to ensure that there is a national strategy for IAS prevention and management (NISSAP), strengthened EDRRs and ERPs in place and national capacity for ensuring measures are in place to manage IAS.
3	The increased capacities of local stakeholders, including fishers, farmers, graziers and other natural resource dependents ensure sustainable and appropriate use and management of natural resources that results in reduction of threat to endemic species and ecosystems	The project will benefit from best practices of landscape/seascape planning and the testing of innovative approaches for community management of forest, coastal and marine areas under local community governance mechanisms. These approaches will be innovative and build on existing traditional practices as well as best practices available from other parts of the country or regionally. The support for improved blue/green livelihood measures will build adequate incentives to enhance local community participation in ensuring conservation outcomes. The lessons learned including the feedback on landscape/seascape planning will be channeled back into the collective knowledge base and will be used in other areas in the country.

4	The raised awareness and increased knowledge management expand political understanding and actions supporting biodiversity and ecosystem conservation and management within the country	The importance of actively addressing natural resource management and prevention and management of IAS is recognized as fundamental to ensure the maintenance of native species and ecosystems in the country. The project promotes increased awareness, a monitoring system and information and knowledge promotion. If this is achieved, it will provide the country with a tested approach to direct and support natural resource conservation efforts throughout the nation.
5	There is stability in the economic and political global environment	The achievement of long-term impacts will likely be achieved if the assumptions from 1 through 4 are effective. However, this achievement is ensured based on the following assumption, namely that national and international macroeconomic conditions and other natural or man-induced factors (such a Covid-19) remain stable and manageable, so that this does not shift government priorities.

The four planned Components of the project are:

Component 1. Enabling framework for safeguarding biodiversity, combating land degradation and securing a nature-based economy

Component 2. Comprehensive risk management approach to address IAS threats to biodiversity and land degradation

Component 3. Community-based integrated ecosystem management and threat reduction at land/seascape scale

Component 4. Knowledge management, awareness, M&E and gender mainstreaming

Component 1. Enabling framework for safeguarding biodiversity, combating land degradation and securing a nature-based economy

(Total Cost: USD5,729,000; GEF project grant requested: USD 1,679,000; Cofinancing: USD 4,050,000)

Outcome 1: Strengthened inter-sectoral governance, capacity and strategies to mainstream biodiversity and LDN and support a nature-based economic pathway

This will strengthen intersectoral governance, capacity, strategies and tools for conserving and mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services to support a nature-based development pathway. This will be achieved through promotion of the voice, participation and empowerment of women by ensuring that they have access to information, gender sensitization and have equal representation in technical and governance committees.

Potential impacts from ?upstream? project activities, which involve planning support, capacity building, policy advice and reform, will be assessed through a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA). At project inception, the UNDP Country Office will commission an appropriate expert(s) to conduct the SESA, which will assess potential impacts from, and strategies for, upstream policy-level project activities. The SESA will evaluate the effect of policy changes on a broad, cross-sectoral basis with the aim of making policy decisions and other upstream actions more sustainable. The assessment of upstream impacts will integrate environmental and social considerations into policies, plans and programs, and evaluate their interlinkages with economic and sustainable considerations. As a high-level document, the SESA will be based on the broad scope of envisaged high-level project activities. As these are somewhat already identified and broadly defined, work on

the SESA can commence at an early stage of project implementation. The detailed scope of the SESA will be refined by expert(s) conducting the assessment. The report will identify strategies for effective management of identified impacts, which will inform the impact management approach adopted by the proponents.

Output 1.1 Cross-sectoral committee operationalized/strengthened to mainstream biodiversity across sectors, supported by blue/green economy strategy, relevant MOUs, improved national/local coordination and strengthened regulatory framework

Under Output 1.1, a cross-sector biodiversity mainstreaming council will be operationalized, with the aim to strengthen the existing Environmental Advisory Committee and elevating its status to support mainstreaming of biodiversity across sectors including through the promotion of resilient blue/green development pathways. This Committee will be located within the Office of the Prime Minister and other relevant high level government representation (preferably at the level of Permanent Secretaries). The committee will also have oversight for NBSAP implementation and the key interlinkages with other sectors needed to achieve its targets. These efforts will be supported by the development of MOUs between agencies/sectors and improved vertical coordination with the provinces on biodiversity mainstreaming. The coordination body will be supported by a council of biodiversity experts and practitioners. The council/committee will develop and operationalize a strategy to secure a blue/green development pathway and identify resilient, diversified[1] nature-based investment opportunities in key sectors (e.g., environment, agriculture, fisheries, tourism and forestry).

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[1] The strategy will reflect the COVID-19 pandemic and understanding that has emerged on the risks of reliance on international tourism to have diversified, resilient green livelihoods.

Support will be provided to prepare sector-based plans and/or guidance to operationalize the strategy (with testing in Component 3 of options that fall within the GEF mandate and will achieve GEBs). The project will support the review and development of improved (and better integrated) regulations, guidelines and provincial ordinances to support the effective enforcement of legislation. Improvements to regulations (to be confirmed during the PPG) will be likely to include: a) broadening the scope of the Wildlife Protection and Management Act 1998 and Regulations 2008 to include wildlife conservation and threat reduction (current focus is on CITES implementation); b) amending the regulations of the Protected Areas Act 2010 to cover threatened endemic species and habitats; c) review of the regulations of related to land management and support the develop of a LDN country strategy. The task of the coordination would be to oversee the following: development of guidelines and standards for landscape/seascape planning; development of legislation, regulations and protocols to strengthen national-provincial landscape/seascape planning, including drafting directives and developing plan review and feedback mechanisms; framework policies to mainstream biodiversity conservation into key sectors at the macro level-scale; overseeing a baseline information repository and facilitating information flows between entities; encouraging national government and provinces to adopt

management practices to mainstream biodiversity conservation into key sectors; informing the endorsement process for the land and seascape plans; coordination between land and seascape governance and planning and other potentially related policies, initiatives, and projects; fund raising to implement policies and plans to mainstream biodiversity conservation; development and implementation of a national capacity building program for all stakeholders involved in the landscape and seascape planning and management process; advocacy of landscape/seascape approaches, and enhancement of community capacity, regulations and policy for improved community management of protected areas

Under Output 1.1, the specific activities will include the following: (i) review the existing coordination arrangements, including the Environmental Advisory Committee and elevating its status to support mainstreaming of biodiversity across sectors including through the promotion of resilient blue/green development pathways. This would include consideration for locating the ECA within the Office of the Prime Minister and other relevant high level government representation (preferably at the level of Permanent Secretaries); (ii) development of MOUs between agencies/sectors to enable improved vertical coordination with the provinces on biodiversity mainstreaming; (iii) establishing a council of biodiversity experts and practitioners, with representation of women and youth to support the landscape/seascape planning; (iv) oversee the development and operationalization of a strategy to secure a blue/green development pathway and identify resilient, diversified nature-based investment opportunities in key sectors (e.g. environment, agriculture, fisheries, tourism and forestry) and (v) oversee the development of regulations, guidelines and protocols to promote landscape/seascape planning and implementation, including institutional and governance structure for these efforts.

Output 1.2 Foundations for achieving land degradation neutrality (LDN) are developed through improved land use policy, regulations, multi-sector coordination and adoption of climate smart agriculture

Output 1.2 will put in place an enabling platform for promoting and achieving LDN through improved land use policy, regulations and multi-sector coordination (*inter alia* agriculture, livestock and forestry). Solomon Islands has not yet engaged in the LDN target-setting process and GEF funds will support this process. The project will start with a series of participatory processes to introduce the concept of LDN, including identification and resolution of policy trade-offs, the LDN response hierarchy of Avoid > Reduce >Reverse land degradation, goals/target setting and monitoring taking full account of guidance and lessons published by UNCCD and FAO for SIDS[1]. The national legal, policy and land use planning frameworks will be reviewed and strengthened to support achievement of LDN, with mechanisms to promote enforcement and in particular to address the larger burden faced by women from land degradation and climate impacts as well as in ensuring that policies and legislation in agriculture, livestock and rural land use integrated gender related concerns so as to engage women in decision-making in relation to these issues. This will be undertaken through technical consultancy

support, consultation meetings with law makers, sector agencies and communities, training and awareness raising to enhance their implementation, coordination support from the PMU to ensure formal approval by Government and preparation of supporting guidelines for their implementation. Legal review will focus on: (i) the outdated Agriculture and Livestock Act and supporting regulations; (ii) the National Rural Land Use Policy (NRLUP) in 2015-2020 (SiG, 2015), with accompanying documents including Guidelines for Community Based Land Use Planning in SI, Report & Recommendations to implement the NRLUP, which regrettably the SAFE PPG analysis found has never been endorsed by the SIG due to a lack / absence of political will from consecutive governments from the national to local levels will also be reviewed and updated to support LDN and (iii) the Agriculture Sector Growth and Improvement Plan (ASGIP) 2021-2030 (SIG, 2020), which only mentions land degradation twice and never mentions the concept of Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN). The indicative activities under this output are: (i) support decision makers at national and provincial levels including active representation of women and youth to identify the baselines (LCC, NP and SOC) and set national targets for LDN (including ensuring technical capacity exists in MAL to monitor the core LDN indicators); (ii) review and update of the Agriculture and Livestock Act and supporting regulations; (iii) revision of the Agriculture Sector Growth and Improvement Plan (ASGIP) 2021-2030 to include LD and ambitions towards LDN for Solomon Islands; (vi) Review, catalyze any required changes for update of NRLUP (to 2030) and then support endorsement by the Government and (v) support implementation of revised and endorsed RLUP at community level in the 4 demonstration target sites

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Output 1.3 Government stakeholders at national and provincial levels (including agriculture, livestock, forestry and fisheries extension officers and PA managers) capacitated to enforce key mandates related to conservation of globally significant and endemic species, IAS and sustainable land management through institutionalized training and provision of equipment

Output 1.3 will deliver a program to build the capacity of government and other key stakeholders at national and provincial levels to enforce key mandates related to conservation of globally significant and endemic species, IAS prevention and management, sustainable agriculture and LDN. In order to build sustainability post project, biosecurity staff as well as agriculture, livestock, forestry and fisheries extension officers will be a key target group along with key NGOs and PA managers (in collaboration with the GEF-IUCN EREPA project and the GEF-FAO IFM Project). The project will deliver training in identified priority areas in species conservation (e.g., effective enforcement and monitoring), IAS (e.g., biosecurity and risk-based management) and sustainable land management (e.g., sustainable land management/climate smart agriculture towards LDN, increased crop/livestock yields and farm profitability). During the PPG, a detailed capacity assessment was completed of the individual, institutional, legal and systemic capacity and key training needs and gaps identified. The PPG review of current training and certification systems identify that little focus is places on capacity building on LD risks and SLM /CSA [*inter alia* Solomon Islands National University and Solomon Islands

Association for Vocational and Rural Training Centers (SIAVRTC)] and the project should support partnerships to facilitate capacity development where possible using/adapting existing materials[2] An indicative list of potential activities under this output, include the following: (i) conduct a biosecurity system wide assessment inclusive of existing and future capacity, training, resource needs, protocols, regulations and legal drivers to support biosecurity actions. A consultant with appropriate regional experience in biosecurity planning will be contracted; extensive on the ground and/or remote support will be provided that is sufficient to permit a detailed biosecurity review with identification of gaps and needs with appropriate pathways forward determined. The assessment will cover mechanisms that can be strengthened or created to support nationwide biosecurity strengthening at both international and domestic ports and as needed other key high-risk areas (if they exist) for IAS incursion/movement; (ii) based on the above-assessment, the development of a gender-sensitive biosecurity strategy inclusive of short and long-term goals and objectives with focus on near term needs and mechanisms for addressing those needs, including such items as development of laws and regulations to strengthening biosecurity and developing long term cost-recovery programs to support funding of biosecurity needs. Major parts of developing such a program will be (i) understanding the existing resource/funding needs at current level, (ii) understanding what biosecurity strengthening is anticipated and what resources/funding will be required to support implementation of strengthening (both national and domestic), (iii) through extensive stakeholder consultations determine what mechanisms are realistic and feasible for implementing to support such biosecurity strengthening, and (iv) laying out a multi-year plan on how implementation will occur including necessary funding mechanisms. The outcome of this activity would be a national biosecurity strategy and implementation of actions, inclusive of an institutionalized training program; (iii) two ports of entry are developed as demonstration sites for biosecurity strengthening inclusive of improved/enhance equipment and protocols for arrival and departure inspection services. This would also seek to identify additional funding to support development of demonstration ports biosecurity through the engagement of one or several donor organizations. Development and maintaining these demonstration ports would be a high priority for the Solomon Islands, with funding and support required for these long-term efforts; (iv) introduce the goals and objectives of land degradation neutrality (LDN) to decision makers in the key sectors of MAL and forestry (theoretical and practical); (v) increase awareness and knowledge of LD/SLM/CSA at national and provincial levels, including among extension staff; and (vi) contract a Master Trainer in FFSs to catalyze adoption of the learning by doing approach (in preference to the passive demo farm approach), including specifically to ensure that women and youth are engaged in this learning process.

The outcome of this Output would be (i) increase in national capacity for IAS in key sectors and government stakeholders capacitated to enforce mandates related to IAS through internalization of training and provision of equipment.

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[1] UNCCD and FAO. 2020.Land Degradation Neutrality in Small Island Developing States. Technical report. Bonn, Germany.

[2] For IAS, there are some learning materials available through SPREP?s Pacific Invasives Learning Network (PILN) or and others being developed by other GEF investments such as the IAS training modules being developed with the College of Micronesia by the GEF-6 IAS project in the Federated States of Micronesia.

Output 1.4 Strengthened information management for biodiversity, IAS and LDN linked to existing integrated data portal, along with enhanced decision support through improved monitoring, targeted gap-filling assessments, data-sharing protocols and priority species conservation lists and plans

Information currently exists in part for some of the established pest organisms within Solomon Islands, but, in general this information is very limited, incomplete and/or in need of updating and for some organisms detailed information is lacking or minimal at best. In order to effectively address on the ground IAS management needs, comprehensive baseline assessments of pest organisms are required and priority populations of pests must be regularly monitored to ensure current and relevant details such as population structure, range and impacts. In terms of LD, there is a dearth of information about the soils and land degradation issues across the country. The only comprehensive nationwide reconnaissance level assessment of soil types dates from 1976 (Hansell and Wall 1976), which classified soil types according to the U.S. soil classification scheme and described the physical geography, climate, soils, vegetation and agriculture opportunity areas of the country. It provides an in-depth overview of the nation?s land resources where geology, landforms, soils, climate and vegetation were emphasized. Some of these elements remain, but many are outdated/insufficient thus new surveys are needed to provide the baseline and for monitoring LDN (i.e., LCC, NPP and SOC).

This Output will support improved collation, integration and use of biological/ecological and soil/land degradation data in decision-making. In support of the updating of the NBSAP, desk top reviews will be undertaken to identify gaps in knowledge of the status of globally threatened and endemic species and IAS and targeted baseline assessments will be completed as needed to close key gaps. These will be used to formulate and inform an overall assessment (and state of knowledge) of the status of indigenous species and IAS, a list of priority species for protection (endemics, threatened species and those threatened by illegal/unsustainable trade), and species conservation plans for priority species ? all providing key tools to increase the use of data in decision-making. The use of citizen science approaches to improve data coverage will be explored (including low-technology options).

This output will support development of a suite of decision-making tools aimed at informing effective safeguarding decisions to address IAS threats and impacts within both key land/seascapes and sectors. To this end the project will support the documentation of baseline information for key pest organisms that are both established within Solomon Islands and those which are determined to be key priority

threats which could arrive and establish. More importantly, this output will support the development of a national IAS information system structure by the end of Year 1 that will serve as a single source for IAS information relevant to the Solomon Islands (including detailed information on both established pests and pests with high risk of invasive probability). To the extent feasible, the project will engage with regional and international partners and existing platforms for information exchange and compilation, but in order to best support internal needs including most effectively targeting for resources, address location specific issues and planning for future efforts, that the country would need its own tailor databases and reporting mechanisms for IAS that can be utilized effectively and quickly and as needed modified to improve the effectiveness of based on specific country needs and which can be updated regularly by the in-country personnel without delay and without necessitating the need for a nexus beyond the country borders which well may prevent the sharing of some detailed operational information that the country may well want to include in their own internal database. This will be achieved through a two-stage process. Using available baseline information, the system will provide detailed information on: (i) species taxonomy and biology, (ii) high risk invasive alien species not yet known to be established and their current known locations, (iii) high risk pathways and vectors for pest introductions, (iv) current pest impacts on natural resources and other sections, (v) climate scenarios and how these may affect future pest distribution, impacts and ability to address, (vi) invasive species prevention including tools for groups and individuals, (vii) pest management tools and activities for groups and individuals, and (viii) contact information for key resource and support staff. What is more, this output will support establishment of an IAS monitoring network to be piloted within relevant sectors. The key role of the project, in this regard will be to catalyze and facilitate the development and institutionalization of this network by the responsible sectors and other authorities; and to ensure mechanisms are developed for collating monitoring results and making them readily accessible to all stakeholders, via the IAS information system and other platforms as needed. The second stage is to supplement the baseline information with a commensurate on-the-ground effort during project implementation to update the baseline information that gather additional information through the landscape/seascape and village planning efforts to identify species of importance/impact to the community that will continue to feed into the national information system, that the gets incorporated into the future revisions of NISSAP (usually in a 3?5-year time interval).

In terms of land degradation, the collation and application of remote sensing (using freeware tools e.g., http://www.openforis.org/home.html) and other data on soils and land degradation status will help assess land use changes and threats to inform priorities for achieving LDN, including the key indicators of land cover, NPP and SOC. This will also support development and testing (in the demonstration landscapes under Output 3.3) of protocols for LDN monitoring. Various NGOs have documented traditional knowledge related to conservation and use of biodiversity and natural resources as part of their activities and the project will seek to incorporate those in the information portal alongside other data. This information system structure once established will then be populated over the remainder of the project and should be fully operational by the end of the project, inclusive of the establishment of appropriate mechanisms for long-term updating and maintenance of this system beyond the life of the GEF project. Additionally, this information system will be regularly reviewed and types and levels of information entered modified to best support the needs of end users of the system i.e., the relevant

stakeholders within Solomon Islands. The information system once established and populated should permit a detailed understanding of key established pests, projections for new or expanded invasions, improved priority setting for interventions, informed decision-making on sectoral policies and investments, and easy access to information for decision makers and other users. This output also supports strengthening of risk assessment procedures to be inclusive of economic, social, cultural, health, climate adaptation and environmental consequences. To complement the decision-making tools and information resources, the project will also develop and implement sectoral guidance and regulations to strengthen the safeguarding of main pathways and vectors that could be (or are) utilized by IAS to enter vulnerable areas. The indicative activities under this output are: (i) comprehensive assessment of current IAS and land degradation information management systems to identify gaps and needs to enable informed decision making for the prevention, management and monitoring of IAS and management of social, gender and environmental risks related to IAS in the country as well as land degradation trends and risks; (ii) establish and operationalize of a nationwide IAS and LD information management system (either existing or new) by end of year one and populate of this system with existing available information and new information as available throughout the life of the GEF project (and beyond); (iii) undertake comprehensive baseline assessments of key pest organisms initially to build the information database, and later more comprehensive coverage of all IAS that are considered as potential pests; (iv) undertake comprehensive baseline assessment of land degradation status and trends, threats and key drivers for land degradation; (v) develop protocols for regular monitoring of priority IAS in relevant sectors, such as forestry, agriculture, marine systems, etc. and LD trends and impacts; (vi) development of data sharing protocols and (vii) IAS and LD information is linked into the integrated data portal that is well maintained and coordination amongst partners is appropriate and maintained for long term.

Component 2. Comprehensive risk management approach to address IAS threats

(Total Cost: USD 3,059,000; GEF project grant requested: USD 944,000; Cofinancing: USD 2,150,000)

Component 2 will put in place a comprehensive framework for early detection, control and management of IAS to support invasion risk reduction and management of established invasives. This will aim to address the direct threats from IAS to biodiversity and also disrupt links between IAS impacts and land degradation.

Outcome 2: Comprehensive IAS framework for early detection, control and management identifies and prioritizes highest risk invasion pathways to safeguard natural and production systems from IAS

Output 2.1 - National strategy for IAS management (NISSAP) adopted and operationalized through appropriate governance and established Standard Operating Procedures and prioritized lists of high-risk IAS

It is essential to develop a multi-year strategy in regards to IAS prevention and management. This National Invasive Species Framework and Strategic Action Plan (NISSAP) would be the primary tool supporting and guiding IAS prevention and management activities for the nation. A preliminary step towards completing a NISSAP will be to conduct a desktop review to ensure that detailed information has been compiled regarding IAS currently within the Solomon Islands, IAS which threaten the country and biodiversity including endemics, threatened species and protected areas. It is recommended that this compilation of IAS information for the country (to the extent information is available) include the following: inventory of IAS by provinces , island group and/or island; inventory of endemic and threatened species by province, island group and/or island; inventory of designated nature areas and ecosystems; inventory of risk species already established in neighboring countries and/or with trade partners; and an inventory of IAS prevention and management projects undertaken within the Solomon Islands, including past and on-going activities.

By developing a multi-sectorial, comprehensive strategy that is endorsed at senior levels of government, the Solomon Islands will be able to facilitate IAS prevention and management via a multi-stakeholder approach, ensuring that existing resources and capacity are utilized effectively and that capacity gaps are addressed in an effective and timely manner. A gap analysis conducted as part of the NISSAP development will support these efforts. The NISSAP will also include an IAS pathways analysis, detailing risk levels for IAS incursion. While the setting overarching goals and objectives via the NISSAP is essential, it is equally important to develop a prioritized action plan to guide implementation. The action plan would include as much specificity as feasible, including details on actions, timing, facilitation, responsibility and resources. The NISSAP will also outline opportunities to broaden the responsibility base for IAS management, including through voluntary compliance and improved biosecurity by individuals and operators, and through industry and user fees, and penalties for non-compliance. A specific section of the NISSAP will emphasize the need to share responsibility beyond government alone and that ?IAS and biosecurity is everyone?s responsibility?. The action plan will serve as a road map for IAS prevention and management activities.

Development and completion of the NISSAP should be facilitated by an international consultant with multiple years of experience with developing similar strategies in the Pacific as well as first-hand knowledge of IAS management in the region. The NISSAP development, including the desktop exercise, should take approximately 12 months to finalize and should be a priority for completion in the first year of the project. The NISSAP is expected to outline legislative reform and improvements

required to ensure strong biosecurity and IAS systems, and the development of this legislation will be progressed following the completion of the NISSAP. The NISSAP preparation will be overseen by an inter-sectoral IAS working group established under the intersectoral biodiversity committee. Protocols and standard operating procedures (SOPs) for IAS detection, management and eradication to strengthen NISSAP implementation will be developed with the Biosecurity Division of MAL. Priority lists of high-risk IAS that threaten biodiversity and ecosystems will be developed and integrated into biosecurity and risk assessment approaches. Tools and capacity for IAS risk and impact assessments on terrestrial and marine protected areas will be developed in collaboration with the EREPA project. Indicative GEF-financed activities under Output 2.1. include: (i) compilation of inventory of IAS, endemic and threatened native species and ecosystems, risk species already established in neighboring countries and/or trade partners, and ongoing IAS prevention and management actions by province or island group and/or island; (ii) prioritized list of established IAS to address management of IAS risks and prioritized list of high-risk IAS not yet established to prevent entry into the country; (iii) gap analysis of IAS prevention and control measures, and pathway analysis of potential IAS that could arrive and establish in the country; (iv) completion of NISSAP that would outline specific requirements relating to legislation and policy, capacity building, research, monitoring and biosecurity to protect the Solomon Islands from IAS; (v) a multi-sectorial coordination body for IAS prevention and management established in Year 1 to oversee development (caveat: development and finalization of the NISSAP should not wait on the existence of this body but rather should proceed immediately in project year one under guidance of the PMU with input from relevant sectors through an expert consultant) and implementation of the NISSAP, tracking of efforts and updating on a 5-year basis. The coordination body will oversee the a) review of the Fisheries Act, Biosecurity Act with consideration on strengthening language to address all potential IAS, to strengthen implementation of internal biosecurity and to establish effective cost recovery systems directly supporting biosecurity activities through the collection of user fees, levy fines, etc. b) detailed review of the biosecurity act and other pertinent legal drivers will be undertaken as part of the biosecurity legal review and updating under component 2 of this project), Forestry Act, Shipping Act and Shipping (Marine Pollution) Regulation 2011 and Environment Act 1998 to address species conservation and IAS prevention and management; and d) improvement of guidelines and provincial ordinances to address threatened and endemic species and IAS prevention and management (including provisioning for early detection and rapid response to novel species incursions (the review and strengthening of EDRR at the national level with capacity to scale down and adjust for specifics at the localized level will be undertaken as part of the biosecurity strengthening of component 2 of this project). On topics related to IAS, given the cross-sector nature of the measures necessary to prevent and manage IAS, a high-level coordination council particularly necessary, involving the Office of the Prime Minister and other relevant high level government representation (preferably at the level of Permanent Secretaries) from the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management & Meteorology; Ministry of Agriculture & Livestock; Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources, Ministry of Forests and Research, Solomon Islands Port Authority, Solomon Islands Maritime Authority, Solomon Island Airport Corporation and other key ministries/agencies who have a mandate related to IAS and biosecurity. This high-level IAS Council, will be supported by a technical committee that include representation from key agencies dealing with IAS and related biosecurity issues, respectively to advise the high-level council. The Coordinating body will communicate regularly with national leadership as well as localized province or community leaders as may be needed to ensure that IAS issues are being addressed. The coordination body will be

supported by a council of IAS experts and practitioners; (vi) drafting of IAS legislation and regulations in accordance with requirements specified in NISSAP, including to enhance cost-recovery mechanisms for the incurred costs of IAS management; (vii) establishment of a national IAS council of practitioners and experts, including with representation of women to support addressing prevention and management of IAS nationwide and to serve as the IAS expert council to the multi-sectorial IAS coordination body; The IAS council with have by-laws and an established agenda agreed on by the IAS coordination body. The IAS council will minimally meet quarterly and produce meeting minutes/reports. The IAS council will be supported and engaged by the IAS coordination body. The IAS council with engage with appropriate national and local IAS concerns, documenting discussions and proposed action and advise the IAS coordination body appropriately and effectively in a timely manner.

Output 2.2 Strengthened biosecurity measures including essential equipment and capacity to support prevention, enforcement and control of IAS at key entry/exit points and between islands, with strengthened Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) mechanism and Emergency Response Plans (ERPs) in place and tested

Output 2.2 will result in strengthened biosecurity measures to support enforcement, detection and control of IAS. Activities will focus on high priority areas including islands of Western Province, Honiara port and international airport, Noro port and Munda international airport, and other key ports of entry from Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu, with targeted investment in provinces to control spread between islands. This will require the establishment of collaborative arrangements between Biosecurity Division, Customs Division, ECD (and other partners such as ports, agriculture, forestry and fisheries officials and extension officers and the provincial governments) to address the linked threats that IAS pose to biodiversity protection and sustainable land management. At the four international airports and seaports, project investment will include targeted improvements to equipment to put in place essential biosecurity measures. This will focus on low-tech solutions with minimum maintenance and capacity development needs (e.g., binoculars, cameras and headlamps for monitoring of logging and cargo ships and ballast water discharge, back-pack sprayers, traps, freezers, personal protective equipment and potentially support for fumigation facilities and IT equipment), based on a detailed PPG assessment of equipment and capacity needs (including assessment of the capacity to use and maintain such equipment). In addition, GEF resources will fund appropriate training using (where possible) existing international modules on protocols and use of equipment, including the demonstration of strengthened Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) mechanisms/kits and Emergency Response Plans (ERPs) reflecting the key IAS/types threatening biodiversity and SLM based on Solomon?s context. Again, investment will focus on provision of low-maintenance, easy-to-use equipment (e.g., provision of materials for wire cage traps for EDRR kits whose construction and maintenance can be demonstrated in a workshop setting). At between-island ports (including domestic airports in project landscapes) that represent high risk invasion pathways, basic biosecurity improvements may include the use of signage, education, and awareness-raising to build understanding of biosecurity risks and instil basic biosecurity and quarantine protocols for the transportation of vessels, people and goods between islands. Provisions for sustainability of IAS investments include the use of low-tech, practical equipment

options as possible; development of repeatable, standardized capacity development and awareness materials; and incorporation of maintenance costs of equipment into development/recurrent budgets of MAL. Further, options for the recovery of costs for securing increased biosecurity at the main entry and exits ports, perhaps through revision of existing fees/levies[4] will be explored as a potential financing mechanism to support the sustainability of IAS investments. A sustainability plan will be developed. Project interventions will be based on best practices developed internationally (e.g., through SPREP?s Pacific Invasives Learning Network (PILN)) and will require appropriate training and testing.

This Output will support the following indicative activities: (i) capacity building training provided to biosecurity staff and other frontline agencies/staffs at ports (supported by the biosecurity strategy (developed under Component 1) which will have a training component) - Biosecurity training needs will be well documented in the biosecurity strategy and at least in part identified through the capacity needs assessment conducted for biosecurity; appropriate trainers will be engaged to provide annual training activities; capacity will be built within the Solomon Islands to meet various elements of biosecurity training needs over time; (ii) as needed developing further legal drivers (based in part on results of the biosecurity assessment) to support biosecurity inclusive of pre-arrival risk assessment and sanitation requirements, arrival inspection/screening for all vessels, cargoes, materials and persons, quarantine requirements, and final disposition determinations inclusive of treatment and turn away/denial actions as needed for both ports of entry as well as internal transit points, as appropriate. Drafting of needed legal drivers for strengthening biosecurity both nationally and internally will be forth coming and the need for legislation to support improved/new requirements and protocols may be warranted and should be supported. This will entail the record of national review and determination of drafted biosecurity legislation, development of regulations based on biosecurity legislation (if approved) and development of protocols to implement new regulations - an appropriate skilled consultant will be engaged to support development of protocols; Protocols should be drafted while the draft legislation is under review for endorsement. Once legal drivers are in place along with regulations and protocols, biosecurity staff will be trained in their implementation; (iii) biosecurity at ports of entry is strengthened countrywide (supported by the biosecurity strategy, NISSAP and training and expanding efforts made at the 2 demonstration sites developed as part of project component 1) and document through interception/treatment records, training records, port surveillance records, risk assessment records. Given the high priority placed on reducing risks and impacts from IAS that legal drivers, regulations, protocols and funding to support implementation of strengthened biosecurity throughout the country will be forthcoming in a timely and appropriate manner to support long term biosecurity strengthening; (iv) as needed develop and enact legal drivers to support inter-island biosecurity (supported by the biosecurity strategy and NISSAP). This will entail the drafting of legal drivers to support/expand current domestic biosecurity during the same time frame as those to strengthen international biosecurity and will be documented through records of national review and determination of drafted biosecurity legislation. Approved/endorsed domestic biosecurity legislation will be followed by development of regulations and SOPs to implement these regulations. An appropriate skilled consultant will be engaged to support appropriate development of regulations. Domestic regulations and associated SOPs should be drafted while the draft legislation is under review for endorsement; (v) biosecurity at inter-island ports (air and sea) is developed and put in place

(supported by the biosecurity strategy, NISSAP and legal drivers). This will entail the hiring of biosecurity staffs for key internal ports as needed. Resources will be made available to initially support implementation of domestic biosecurity at 2 demonstrations sites and then expand to include other priority areas within the country; biosecurity staff shall be hired and trained and maintained at appropriate levels. Domestic biosecurity will be supported by training of staff, specifically to support implementation of new inter-island biosecurity regulations; (vi) provisioning of required biosecurity equipment for ports and biosecurity staff (supported by the biosecurity strategy which will include components on material and equipment needs for each port) - Equipment needed for domestic biosecurity will be documented as part of the biosecurity strategy and port develop planning process; Funding and other resources will be made available to support equipment purchase and utilization; (vii) national EDRR plan is in place and endorsed by leadership and is inclusive of clear decision-making process and engagement of cross-sectorial support. The development of a national EDRR strategy will be supported by an experienced consultant who will be engaged to support the country with development of a comprehensive and detailed EDRR plan that will be endorsed by leadership and supported/implemented by key ministries and offices. Once developed the endorsement of EDRR strategy by national leadership and relevant ministries will provide ensurance that an appropriate EDRR structure is supported at all levels. Documentation will include an endorsed EDRR strategy that is implemented with records of novel species reports, determinations made and actions taken; (viii) ERPs developed for priority taxonomic groups and incorporated into the overall EDRR strategy as well as training for use of ERPs as part of EDRR action undertaken. Training for ERP implementation is essential, and should be inclusive of mock novel species detection and response actions involving all relevant sectors; (ix) EDRR and ERPs reviewed and updated annually to ensure decision makers, leadership roles, contacts and other details remain relevant. Both the EDRR strategy and its associated ERPs will be maintained as living documents and updated as needed to ensure they remain appropriate and that ERPs can be implemented rapidly as needed; (x) resources including equipment and funding are in place to support response actions as needed. Determination on how EDRR will be funded long term will be included in the EDRR strategy. An appropriate consultant with expertise in developing funding streams for biosecurity will be engaged to facilitate this planning and that it is inclusive of input from senior leadership and decision makers; (xi) development of EDRR funding mechanism, inclusive of legal drivers as needed and clear mechanisms for release/use of funds as appropriate. Implementation of EDRR funding mechanism is envisaged for long term support of EDRR and funding is readily available for use in IAS response actions and to support maintenance of the EDRR system; (xii) EDRR system developed including surveillance at key high risk points such as ports and national novel species reporting structure, protocols for handling IAS detection reports, decision making structure determine and enacted. This will entail that high-risk IAS incursion points are documented nationwide as part of the biosecurity strategy and surveillance activities are developed for high-risk locations as part of the biosecurity strategy. IAS surveillance activities at areas of high IAS incursion risk are supported at all levels, appropriate protocols are established and resource are available to support surveillance activities; (xiii) national novel species reporting structure designed as part of the EDRR strategy including protocols and pathway for decision making on submitted reports, enacting responses and timing. Novel species encounter reporting system (hotline and online) are developed and enacted, including hiring and training of operators, with records of detection reports, decisions and response actions are effectively documented utilized a standardized format and entered into a database for long term use; (xiv) national awareness campaign for IAS detection and reporting developed,

including for use of the novel species reporting system will be supported and developed (this should be linked into the IAS awareness and engagement activities covered in project outcome 4.1)? and (xv) national awareness campaign for IAS detection and reporting implemented, reporting mechanisms are established and publicized and funding and other resources will be available for its implementation nationwide, reaching all communities as well as visitors.

Component 3. Community-based integrated ecosystem management and threat reduction at land/seascape scale

(Total Cost: USD 15,596,690; GEF project grant requested: USD 5,046,690; Cofinancing: USD 10,550,000)

Component 3 will demonstrate how a nature-based economic pathway can engage communities (including women and youth), improve livelihoods of men, women and youth and strengthen conservation of globally threatened and endemic species and reduce threats from IAS and land degradation. The project will focus on integrated planning and delivery across 253,061 ha in twelve land/seascapes representative of the terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystems and agro-ecosystems of Solomon Islands, all of which also include KBAs. These are:

? Reef Islands and Utupua ? Temotu Province (48,244 ha, including 20,400 ha of PAs)

? Western Solomons (Shortland Islands, Roviana and Marovo Lagoons ? Western Province) (89,134 ha, including 30,090 ha of PAs)

? San George and South Choiseul (75,713 ha, including 10,074 ha of PAs)

? Lau and North Malaita (39,970 ha including 6,200 of PAs)

The PPG phase assessed the feasibility of implementing community-based integrated ecosystem management and threat reduction at land/seascape level. Field visits were undertaken to specific sites where local communities, including women, men and youth) and organizations are involved in the protection of biodiversity and natural resources, from which it was concluded that adequate enabling conditions exist. All relevant local organizations and technical project partners agreed with the proposed project interventions and contributed (in varying degrees) to their initial design (including indigenous peoples community members- see consent letters). Meaningful consultations, engagement and awareness raising was undertaken with relevant indigenous groups, who were informed of the

potential (and their rights) for an FPIC process to be launched at the very beginning of project implementation.

As the implementation of the project (and its relevant activities) progress, additional screening will be required to assess potentially emerging risks or to re-categorize the significance of currently identified risks; which could trigger the need for new assessments and management options. Through on-going engagement, consultation and monitoring of FPIC elements of Component 3-related activities, potential risk/adverse impact areas such as access restrictions, economic displacement, livelihoods, access and benefit sharing, cultural heritage for indigenous communities can be identified early-on.

The implementation of a robust, mutually agreed and SES-compliant FPIC protocol will thus be paramount for this project. Activities under Outputs 3.1, 3.3 and 3.4 will not be able to commence until documented FPIC has been achieved. Further information on how potential future/further risks should be screened, assessed and managed is outlined in the project?s ESMF and IPPF.

Outcome 3: Community participation and improved livelihoods from a nature-based economic pathway that reduces threats from IAS

Output 3.1 Integrated land/seascape management plans with strong community governance developed and implemented over 12 landscapes/seascapes, using traditional and other knowledge to reduce threats from IAS, land degradation and unsustainable resource use

Output 3.1 concerns the elaboration of an integrated landscape/seascape management plans with strengthened community governance developed and implemented for conservation of globally significant biodiversity and sustainable land management in the demonstration land/seascapes, integrating traditional and new knowledge to reduce threats and impacts from IAS, land degradation and unsustainable natural resource use. Open and active dialogue across multiple stakeholder groups including specifically with indigenous groups, women and youth) will be adopted to build a common understanding of priorities, co-benefits and resolve conflicting aspirations for each landscape/seascape, including landscape-level target setting for biodiversity and SLM. Design of the plans will involve full engagement and agreement of local communities, indigenous groups, women and youth and consideration of local needs and rights including the identification of diversified blue/green livelihood options that can deliver meaningful economic benefits and facilitate a shift away from unsustainable and/or illegal use of natural resources. The management plans will be designed based on detailed and spatially-explicit landscape/seascape-level baseline assessments (e.g., using the Biological Rapid Assessment (BIORAPS)***[1]*** methodology, while also including priority IAS, livelihood and land degradation assessments and finalized during the first year of implementation. Each management plan (land use pan linked to NRLUP) will be supported by an appropriate local coordination committee with clear TOR, representing the key stakeholders (e.g., community groups, smallholder farmers, local government, private sector), including men, women and youth who will oversee implementation, monitoring and adaptive management and risk/impact mitigation.

[1] https://pipap.sprep.org/content/bioraps-biological-rapid-assessment

This output concerns the elaboration of an integrated landscape/seascape management strategies (ILSMS) for the 12 target landscape/seascapes within the 4 target sites. A participatory planning process will be established that complements existing traditional planning processes that will be elaborated, shared and adopted through a participatory approach (with copies of plans kept in local communities), involving key players (national and provincial institutions, NGOs, civil society, local communities, women and youth, private operators, etc.), under the supervision of the cross-sectoral biodiversity committee (Output 1.1). The oversight and coordination of the preparation of the integrated landscape/seascape management plans/strategy will be undertaken by each of the 12 landscape/seascape planning committees that will include: (i) mapping of the demonstration landscape/seascapes and zoning of the biological, socio-economic and environmental boundaries and aspects, including, inter alia, geomorphology, water bodies, , land cover and use, ecosystems and habitats, ecosystem services, LD, marine environment and biodiversity threats including priority IAS that are both present and those that threaten with arrival and establishment for the twelve landscapes/seascapes; (ii) mapping will help identify, prioritize and inform on-the-ground actions at landscape/seascape levels to support biodiversity conservation and SLM/CSA within the five main sectors (forestry, agriculture, fisheries, tourism and aquaculture). It will facilitate identification of (a) areas for conservation of biodiversity, in particular for endangered and endemic species and their habitats and their dispersal corridors, such as HCVFs and marine areas, buffer zones around PA sites and other important ecological areas (including water sources and along rivers); (b) areas for sustainable community natural resources management and use, including sustainable harvesting and extraction, community based conservation and forest management, watershed conservation and climate risk management; (c) degraded areas for community forest restoration and fire management; (d) degraded agricultural areas for restoration using SLM/CSA for sustainable agricultural development; (e) area of seagrass and mangroves; and (f) areas and activities that can promote blue/green livelihood improvement. The participatory mapping and extensive consultation will be conducted with local communities (including men, women, youth and children) and stakeholders (facilitated by NGOs) to validate the mapping, integrate traditional knowledge, identify appropriate zonation and strategies for conservation, land and marine resource use, livelihood development and IAS prevention and management. This will lead to (iii) drafting of integrated landscape and seascape management strategies (ILSMS) for the twelve landscapes/seascapes facilitated by a multi-sector, multi-stakeholder coordination and governance arrangement; (iv) cooperation and coordination between the different institutions at national, provincial and local levels for implementation of ISLMS, followed by (v) extensive consultation with key stakeholders, including local communities on their expected needs and services from these areas and alternative development and livelihood options and the finalization and endorsement of the target ILSMSs. Based on the ISLMS (v) each CMMA, CMFA and community village organization, as relevant will prepare their own CMMA, CMFA, SLM and livelihood development plans that will be supported by (vi) capacity building and technical support to engage and empower communities, indigenous groups, women and youth to implement plans. The project will then

(vii) fund on-the-ground investments in best practices for IAS prevention and management, inclusive of appropriate integrated pest management (IPM), reversing LD through rehabilitation and restoration, sustainable resource use and development of alternate blue/green livelihood activities (Outputs 3.3 and 3.4) that takes into consideration the specific needs of indigenous groups, women and youth. The GEF increment will provide capacity development, training and technical assistance to facilitate mapping, development of the ILSMSs and support for on-the-ground implementation of best practices. Over the long-term, the mapping and strategic planning exercises will provide information for long-term zonation of the land/seascape for different economic uses and development activities, facilitate permitting processes that meet biodiversity-friendly norms, and help develop appropriate governance and enforcement systems to ensure that development is sustainable and environmentally appropriate.

Output 3.2 National species conservation action plans implemented for globally significant and indigenous biodiversity including in-situ measures to enhance habitats and reduce IAS threats and over-exploitation

Output 3.2 will implement conservation actions for globally significant and indigenous biodiversity in each land/seascape. Activities supported by the project will vary according to the priorities of the different land/seascapes and may include: preparation, updating and implementation of species conservation plans; provision of facilities, equipment and community training to support species conservation; habitat enhancements; measures to avoid and manage the threats and impacts from IAS to vulnerable species (in line with the provincial ordinances and the NISSAP developed under Outputs 1.1 and 2.1 respectively); measures to avoid over-exploitation and use of species; and monitoring. The indicative list of activities leading up to preparation of action plans are the following: (i) determination of what species to develop conservation actions plans for. Selection of species will be based on agreed criteria to be determined by the Environment Advisory Committee. Potential criteria might include: currently vulnerable to decline or even extinction; or species with an observed, significant decline in occupied area; the appearance of new threats or intensification or accumulation of existing threats, or all these; significant habitat loss or fragmentation; when a species or populations face an imminent major threat in the form of the predicted arrival of devastating disease or alien invasive species; a population subject to significant harvesting or impacted by climate change, etc. A preliminary list of potential species for selected for preparation of action plans that has been discussed and are reflected in Table 5 of the UNDP Project Document Another option that might be considered would be to plan for multiple species occupying defined areas of the observed pressures on whole ecosystems, and because of the resulting greater cost-effective use of resources. As a general rule, consideration of cost-effectiveness might dictate that as many species as possible are planned jointly unless this reduces the likelihood of meeting the conservation goals for any single one of them; (ii) consultative meetings and technical support to develop species action plans inclusive of IAS prevent and management actions and inclusive of the management structure and staffing needs for each species plan. In the preparation of these plans, this would require access to existing scientific information and expertise to current habitat conditions, population status and trends; (iii) through a participatory process agree on a vision statement for a particular species to ensure the ecological diversity of habitats and species and a time

frame for the vision. Establish goals and targets. Access threats, drivers and constraints to achieve these goals, based on which reach consensus on key actions necessary and develop a species action plan; (iv) this will be followed by accessing capacity needs of institutions, NGOs and local communities, indigenous groups, women and youth to support implementation of species action plans and support capacity training to support implementation of species action plans and resourcing species action plans with required staffs, materials and equipment; (v) formal approval of species action plans and subsequently (vi) key actions prioritized and initiation of specific species priority activities.

Output 3.3 Smallholder farmers supported to implement innovative agricultural practices for sustainable land management that contribute to LDN, protect ecosystem services, reduce threats from IAS and improve incomes, including through farmer field schools and demonstration of model farms

Under Output 3.3 smallholder farmers (including men, women, youth and indigenous people) will be supported to implement innovative agricultural practices to reverse ongoing land degradation and rehabilitate degraded areas, increasing resilience to CC through SLM / CSA towards achieving LDN, protecting ecosystem services and improving incomes through increasing crop / livestock yields. Detailed assessments of the farming systems, including women and indigenous group specific activities in each landscape were conducted during the PPG stage. None of the areas include large-scale commercial farmers growing any particular crop, with the landscapes either entirely subsistence (Utupua Island in Temotu Province), while the others are more a combination of existing plantations and small-scale farms where a mixture of subsistence and cash crops are grown. They include some agroforestry (although not currently using systems which maximize the win-win-win benefits), also cocoa, kava, and coconut plantations and some perennial cropping systems. By supporting innovative approaches to SLM/ SA, which will provide more reliable and / or increased crop yields thus improving food security in all landscapes also raising farmer incomes in the semi-subsistence systems, within a framework of integrated community planning, governance and management at landscape scale, the project aims to avoid and reduce smallholder encroachment into adjacent forested areas. Project interventions will involve piloting integrated planning, implementation and monitoring of the three key variables required towards achieving LDN in the demonstration landscapes (LCC, NPP and SOC) including land use plans and targets. In order to build capacity and sustainability, technical training on SLM technologies will be conducted using the learning-by-doing farmer field school (FFS) approach[1] through the extension services capacitated under Component 1, also lead farmers in each community, with a particular focus on engaging women and youth. Support will be provided to train land users to adopt SLM / CSA to replace current damaging practices (e.g., slash and burn and encroachment into forested areas, lack of restoration of SOC, repetitive tillage etc.) which will lead to an increase in crop yields / reduction in yield variability ? thus increasing incomes. Traditional knowledge of sustainable land management systems will be integrated and promoted[2]; targeted interventions will include composting, mulching, cover crops, reduced tillage, crop rotations, restoration of fallow periods, use of appropriate beneficial agroforestry systems and terracing to reduce soil erosion, all contributing to increasing soil organic matter content, fertility, water and nutrient

management and improved livestock (poultry, piggery) systems, along with measures to reduce the threats to land degradation from IAS (in line with the provincial ordinances and NISSAP developed under Outputs 1.1 and 2.1). Project support for addressing IAS threats and impacts to land and other natural resources degradation will vary according to the contexts and priorities of the land users in the different land/seascapes with similar procedures for prioritization, coordination and learning from best practices as described for Output 3.2. Towards the conclusion of the project, lessons will be shared and scaling-up achieved of successful interventions through community exchanges and visits (Component 4) and through incorporating lessons into guidelines and agricultural training / extension programs for promotion by MAL (and MFMR for seascapes). Smallholders and farmer cooperatives will be assisted through small agricultural business incubators to improve post-harvest storage, processing and development of value chains, with improved access to finance (e.g., through the recently established Development Bank).

The indicative list of activities to contribute to this Output include: (i) development of a gender sensitive strategy to support adoption of the farmer field school approach to catalyze efforts to attain LDN, including recognition of LD issues, also SLM and CSA approaches to halt and reverse land degradation; (ii) recruitment of an experienced Master Trainer; (iii) identification of trainees (lead farmers, women and youth in demonstration landscapes, MAL extension officers - link to 1.3) and provide training in the FFS approach, how to set-up FFSs, recognition of the prevailing LD issues and appropriate SLM/CSA technologies to address them; (iii) provision of necessary training materials, tools and equipment to each FFS; (vi) support for establishment of community nurseries in each demonstration landscape (*inter alia* to multiply seeds of traditional crops, also improved varieties, seedlings for agroforestry tree species), specifically ensuring the active engagement of women and youth; (v) catalyzing lead farmers/extension staff to implement training using the FFS approach ? at least over one growing season, ideally continuing for 2-3 years to address on-going issues; (vi) introduction of LD/SLM/CSA and FFS approach in curricula of Solomon Islands National University (SINU) and Solomon Islands Association for Vocational and Rural Training Centers (SIAVRTCs); (vii) introduction of LD/SLM/CSA into primary and secondary schools? curricula (e.g. via teacher training colleges and provision of learning materials for existing teachers; (viii) support for beneficiary community FFSs with training and materials to improve post-harvest storage, processing and packaging of produce (where SLMs increase yields and markets are accessible); and (ix) linking with CSAYN to encourage involvement of women and young people in FFSs/value chain activities to address the limited youth engagement in traditional farming.

Output 3.4 Diversified resilient livelihoods options co-developed with communities to support ecosystem services provision, species and habitat recovery and the emergence of new blue/green business opportunities (e.g. food, ecotourism, handicrafts, circular economy), particularly for women and youth

Finally, Output 3.4 will demonstrate how diversification into blue/green (nature-based) livelihoods can support the emergence of new business opportunities (e.g. sustainable agriculture, forestry and fisheries, ecotourism, circular economy), while at the same time contribute to ecosystem services provision and species and habitat recovery. During the PPG phase opportunities for accelerating new green-based businesses and resilient green livelihood options were discussed with communities, using the framework, guidance and lessons learned of USAID?s Conservation Enterprise approach[3]. During project implementation, these will be prioritized for each land/seascape based on local context and opportunities, taking into account feasibility and resilience given the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. A strong focus will be given to women and youth as drivers of change and community participation in development, with the aim of strengthening their morale and leadership role. Sustainable financing mechanisms to incentivize green livelihoods aligned with the blue/green economy strategy developed under Component 1 will be established. These may include blended financing solutions including women?s/youth saving clubs or the development of local funds supported via public-private partnerships (e.g. by working with agricultural businesses, food retailers or processors, tourism operators skills and knowledge to implement these activities or forestry companies operating within the project land/seascapes). Training, capacity development and market/value chain assessments to support green business development will be provided. Activities under this Output will be carried out in a coordinated approach including the following stakeholders; Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources (MFMR), Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM), Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAL), the private sector and NGOs. The project will also provide technical training to rural communities? groups, and relevant partners so they have the relevant skills and knowledge and the appropriate procedures and processes in place to implement these activities.

In each of the four project sites, two or more value chains have been identified based on their potential to develop new products and services or scale up existing products and services for the benefit of a larger group of people. Some blue/green livelihood and value chains opportunities identified have relevance across more than one landscape/seascape (see Annex 21 of UNDP Project Document). In selected clusters within the four target sites, the GEF project will support the design and implement interventions to pilot and scale-up products and services having commercial potential, promote credit, marketing and cooperative agreements. This will be done in partnership with specialized agencies such as line departments, NGOs, research institutions and individual experts. Wherever needed, the project will strengthen existing community- based organizations and village level entrepreneurs to address gaps in the value chain. New and improved value chain products and services are implemented by local communities to increase incomes and reduce unsustainable resource uses. A preliminary list of potential blue/green economic activities in the project target sites is provided in Table 3 of UNDP Project Document.

The following actions are planned under this Output: (i) review of on-going livelihood-based activities in the twelve target landscapes/seascapes (within the 4 project areas) to assess constraints, barriers and opportunities to promotion of livelihood programs; (ii) identification of biodiversity-friendly

enterprises and Analysis of Value Chains based on market potential, economic and environmental feasibility. Selection would be flexible to allow additional value chains/livelihood activities to be added during project implementation, as new opportunities can arise and market dynamics change rapidly. Two sets of criteria would be considered when undertaking a preliminary value chain selection, namely: (a) Value chain growth potential (current/potential unmet market demand, competitive advantages etc.) and (b) Livelihood development potential (e.g. percentage of the village that can be engaged in the value chain, and additional income that can be generated from value chain). (iii) Mapping and Analysis of Value Chain on the basis of which a list of preselected value chains, mapping and analysis of value chains would be undertaken during early project implementation, including in-depth market and feasibility analysis. The value chain analysis will be market led, meaning it would start by mapping (a) the market potential of the product/service, (b) the customer requirements and (c) the challenges faced by marketers/customers. Based on the market data the existing value chain (stakeholders, role of the stakeholders, infrastructure availability, practices and processes, value extracted at each step, etc.) gaps in the value chain will be assessed. The objective of this is to identify value chains where rural producers and service providers have a competitive advantage and can establish sustainable livelihoods. Based on the gaps identified above, interventions will be designed and implemented in the project. Project interventions will be designed to complement and enhance ongoing interventions by other stakeholders such as the government, other donor agencies, etc.

The Implementation of Project interventions will be in the following five areas, namely:

? Capacity building of stakeholders, including women, youth and indigenous people in the value chain: Training and skill development will be provided to producers and service providers to (a) help them understand customer requirements, (b) increase productivity, (c) learn necessary business skills and (d) other specific needs as per the value chain, including developing new products and services. Systems and processes will be developed to capture adequate data and monitor the functioning of the value chain;

? Infrastructure: In case of lack of infrastructure the project will work with relevant stakeholders and collaborate with national, state and private sector institutions to provide producers and service providers with both technical and infrastructure (small processing, storage and marketing facilities). When needed technical institutes will be approached to develop appropriate technology to address the gaps identified.

? Marketing: To allow producers and service providers to gain maximum value for their goods and services a marketing strategy will be developed and implemented. This would entail building communication material, communication strategy, identifying distribution channels, partnering with relevant stakeholders, etc.

? Establishing a Blue/Green Livelihood Program at the national level. This will be a Network that involve all the relevant stakeholders working at the rural areas and at provincial level. This network is the platform to share information, learn from each other and be that frontier for business endeavours for all levels of governance.

? Promote Public-Private Partnerships to support blue/green businesses. Develop the relevant regulations and policies for such partnerships. The responsible government agencies such as MAL and MECDM should engage with the private sector, and the roles of those in the market chains will be described

? Identify and Support Sustainability financing mechanisms as incentives for promoting blue/green enterprises. The project can assist in exploring financing mechanism activities that is feasible for rural areas of Solomon Islands.

? Interventions that support diversification of production through the introduction of novel organisms be they plants, insects, animals, marine system based, fresh water system based or other should ensure that first and foremost native organisms are considered and then as appropriate exotic species may be considered, but only if it is established that they have not shown invasive tendencies in other tropical areas. All proposed organism introductions to the country should undergo an appropriate risk assessment as per requirements of the BSI. Movement of organisms within the country, especially with the intent of establishing new populations should also be carefully considered and rely on careful developed assessments based on input from relevant sectorial expertise such as MAL, BSI, Forestry, MFMR, etc.

The interventions will be designed and implemented in a manner to ensure self-sustainability of the value chain by the end of the project period. This will allow the activity to continue beyond the life of the project reducing the risk of dependence on other forms of funding. Primary and secondary level informal or formal organizations/collectives will be encouraged to participate in these livelihood activities. To the extent feasible, the project will attempt to link new investments to national, private and private sector programs. Top-down changes will be avoided, and any adjustment to natural resource use will be designed through informed stakeholder consultations (following the requirement of Free Prior, Informed Consent for instances of potential livelihood-related impacts to indigenous Solomon Islanders) taking into account potential cumulative impacts with other known existing or planned activities in the area. This will result in the development of a livelihood Action Plan for activities under Component 3 in Year 1 of project implementation.

Component 4. Knowledge management, awareness, M&E and gender mainstreaming

(Total Cost: USD3,657,000; GEF project grant requested: USD 1,107,000; Cofinancing: USD 2,550,000)

Component 4 will ensure increased project impact and upscaling across Solomon Islands through effective knowledge management, raising awareness, and gender mainstreaming.

Outcome 4. Increased project impact, replication and upscaling through enhanced awareness and knowledge management

Output 4.1 National communications strategy and plan implemented to raise public awareness on the crucial importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services and the broad benefits of ecosystem-based management

Output 4.1 will develop, test and implement a national communications strategy and action plan, based on an analysis of lessons learned from other GEF projects in the Pacific (including design and early implementation of the EREPA communication and outreach program, also Wakatu Fiji[4]), to raise public awareness of the crucial importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services, the risks and impacts from IAS and land degradation and the broad benefits of ecosystem-based management. The plan will be developed in Year 1 for testing and implementation in coordination with provincial governments, relevant sectors and NGOs/CBO partners on the ground, as well as news media (Solomon Islands Broadcasting Corporation (SIBC) radio and local newsprint media) and social media. Effectiveness of the strategy and plan will be evaluated internally at the end of Year 2, and adaptive measures/lessons incorporated. Specific approaches, tools and materials will be needed to address the many local languages, low levels of literacy in rural areas and challenges with absence of electricity, thus internet and mobile access (e.g., by working through local shortwave radio, extension services and face to face-meetings supported by local teachers, church leaders or nurses, women and youth in the target demonstration landscapes/seascapes ? for eventual upscaling). Communication products and approaches included in the strategy might include provincial-level posters or videos of threatened and endemic species, IAS/LD risks and the benefits of SLM/CSA technologies which contribute to halting and reversing LD, as well as targeted campaigns for iconic species conservation or to address particular threats. Community chiefs and church leaders will be engaged as important advocates in the demonstration communities. Sustainability mechanisms will be explored to ensure that ECD and MAL can maintain a communications function beyond the end of the project.

This Output would also support through the following activities: (i) development and Implementation of the Communication and Knowledge Management Strategy, so that the Project is well understood, accepted, and implemented effectively and equitably; knowledge management products are shared and used; understanding of landscape/seascape planning is increased; understanding and implementation of

best practices is improved; and the public has an increased understanding of IAS, support for biosecurity and engagement with both IAS prevention and management actions. Ultimately the public and visitors should champion the unique biodiversity of the Solomon Islands at both national and local levels and be strongly engaged with preventing IAS incursions through personal actions, reporting potential novel species detections and localized management of existing pest organisms through both personal actions and community-based activities; (ii) implementation of the Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan (and other Vulnerable Populations) so that a gender and socially inclusive perspective is applied to every set of activities; research on gender and social roles in the landscape/seascape informs resulting plans and ensures equitable distribution of benefits; and information is collected and shared across gender and social lines. The next activity (iii) will entail development of a plan to ensure that awareness of biosecurity, IAS, LD etc. is raised among young people, via youth groups in the demonstration landscapes and through formal and informal education / churches nation-wide; (iv) national and provincial workshops organized to facilitate dissemination of field lessons and help inform legal and policy reform relevant to land and seascape conservation practice. Specific topics of learning and success that might evolve from the pilot sites might include the participatory sustainable fisheries or agriculture, sustainable tourism, livelihood improvement, planning, outcomes or impacts of sector specific actions, resilient agriculture development, and participatory monitoring, as well integration of livelihood development planning, soil, land and water management, etc. The initial documentation of these lessons will be included as part of the participatory monitoring process, that would be complemented by additional national technical support to distil and document lessons and experiences. The project will support regular workshops at the national and regional level (Year 3 onwards) to share lessons and experiences and a national workshop at the end of Year 6 to facilitate the sharing of lessons more widely and enable replication nationally; and v) national awareness campaigns developed and implemented at national and provincial levels to inform and engage policy makers, public and private sector entities, visitors and local communities, particularly on IAS prevention and management inclusive of biosecurity and novel species reporting.

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[1] For land users, the ?learning by doing? farmer field schools (FFSs) approach is recommended rather than demo farms, which are passive would be very difficult to develop in the SAFE demo landscapes, due to the absence of extension staff in these communities. See resources at https://www.fao.org/farmer-field-schools/home/en/

[2] For example the Bushmen Farming Network is focusing on six key aspects that have been the foundation to farmer-farmer exchanges for thousands of years: Ideas, Planting Materials, Advice, Individuality, Culture. See https://www.bushmenfarming.com/summary.html

[3] https://rmportal.net/biodiversityconservation-gateway/learning-groups/conservation-enterprises/ce-documents

[4] Wakatu = Grow the Fiji We Deserve

The ?Forestry and protected area management in Fiji, Samoa, Vanuatu and Niue (GEFPAS-FPAM)? [GCP /RAS/262/GFF] supported initial development of the Wakatu Fiji campaign. The TE of that

project concluded ?The Wakatu campaign across the whole country of Fiji provides an excellent model for awareness raising.? See - https://www.facebook.com/WakatuFiji/

Output 4.2 Knowledge sharing tools, biodiversity information/learning centres, events and networks developed and enhanced to aid effectiveness and up-scaling, including across the Pacific and with other SIDS

Output 4.2 will support knowledge sharing, tools, events and networks for safeguarding biodiversity and managing the threats and impacts from IAS/LD and demonstrating the benefits of SLM / CSA to aid effectiveness and up-scaling. The project will use mobile communication via videos and other technology to document activities and best practices, as well as supporting exchange visits between land/seascapes[10]. Low-cost, community-run, biodiversity and sustainability information/learning/visitor centers will be established for coordination and knowledge sharing in each land/seascape. Participation in regional and international events by local community representatives will be supported where clear benefits are identified, including via virtual means as appropriate. The project will place particular emphasis on sharing knowledge and lessons across the Pacific. SPREP already hosts regional information and learning portals that include information on biodiversity and IAS in Solomon Islands[11]. In particular it is important to reactivate Solomon Islands participation in the Pacific Invasive Learning Network (PILN) to share information and participate in regional training activities. Similarly, Solomon Islands should participate in the International Association for Plant Protection Sciences (IAPPS) that is a global agricultural entity that deals with plant protection and is active in the Pacific realm. Specific opportunities for knowledge sharing on IAS with the UNEP/GEF regional IAS project and with other GEF-financed IAS projects in the Pacific and other SIDS were assessed at PPG stage and will be pursued during early project implementation. An indicative list of activities might include the following: (i) documentation and dissemination of knowledge management products to increase awareness and capacity related to control and management of IAS and land degradation in the country, including screening and control of IAS into the country and integration of IAS management into activities in key natural resources sectors (agriculture, animal husbandry, fisheries, etc.). In particular, this activity will support knowledge management products such as: (a) development of guiding documents, tools and manuals of best practices related to IAS and LD control and management in production and protection areas, taking into account low levels of literacy and the different languages; (b) a menu of SLM and CSA compatible farming practices to manage LD and IAS; (c) tools and procedures for screening and control of entry of IAS through ports; (iii) lessons from trailing of procedures for EDRR; etc. In addition as part of (ii) technical reports, publications and other knowledge management products (including in local languages and accessible to local communities) will be produced; (iii) sub-national workshops/meetings to facilitate dissemination of information of best IAS control and effective SLMs and CSA practices to control LD (working towards LDN) and address impacts of climate change will be conducted; (iv) as part of long-term strategy for improving and enhancing IAS prevention and management efforts, the project will support the update of NISSAP so that it comprehensive and serves as a ?road map? for all sectors throughout the country; the EDDR is updated with key contacts, simulation trials are run every 2-3 years to ensure functionality, setting up a reporting system, ensuring chain of command is in place and funded; the need for financial

sustainability of biosecurity is recognized as a priority and a variety of mechanisms of which cost recovery is likely a significant part are under active consideration and replication of IAS management plans through the landscaper/seascape planning process under progress for all provinces in the country. (v) policy notes based on project tested approaches that could facilitate future replication; and (vi) an end of project national seminar on outcomes of the project and options for the future will be supported.

Output 4.3 M&E system supports project impact including gender and youth mainstreaming

Finally, Output 4.3 will deliver a M&E system that supports project impact including gender and youth mainstreaming and adherence to social and environmental safeguards, building on baseline best practices and lessons from other projects in Solomon Islands and across the Pacific. As part of this Output (i) the development and implementation of monitoring framework, based on the Results Framework Agreement to validate baselines and monitor progress in achieving project outcomes and impacts will be undertaken; (ii) a review and regular update of M&E plan, including results framework baselines, tracking tools, Theory of Change to subsequently adopt these findings to implement all aspects of the project; and (iii) a mid-term and terminal evaluation will be conducted in line with UNDP/GEF requirements and incorporate and adapt recommendations of MTR to revised project plans and monitor their implementation.

4) ***Alignment with GEF focal area and/or impact program strategies***

Through its objective of safeguarding Solomon Island?s indigenous species and natural ecosystems from unsustainable resource use and invasive alien species, this proposed project is aligned to two GEF-7 focal area objectives:

BD-1-1 Mainstream biodiversity across sectors as well as landscapes and seascapes through biodiversity mainstreaming in priority sectors. In terms of BD 1-1, the project will focus on mainstreaming biodiversity and sustainable natural resource use at the landscape/seascape level (Output 3.1) as well as the ensure that investments are localized at the community level through integration within CMMA, CFMA, SLM and livelihood (Outputs 13.3 and 3.4) across the twelve landscape/seascapes , focusing on key development sector namely agriculture, forest, fisheries, and other disciplines and aim to improve/enhance positive environmental practices in these sectors. As part of this effort, it would improve guidelines, protocols and planning strategies and build institutional capacities at the province, landscape/seascape and local levels to better integrate conservation outcomes in respective planning processes. The intent is to use the local community organizations as the key vehicle for delivery of conservation actions at the community level, so that local communities

become agents of change in managing biodiversity. Without the GEF project, it is likely that there will be limited effort at integration of biodiversity in local development and will result in further loss of biodiversity and associated habitats. This will be corrected through improved coordination across a multitude of agencies developing regulations, guidelines and protocols for landscape/seascape planning and institutional and coordination structures (Output 1.1); improving capacity of agencies to facilitate mainstreaming of biodiversity and ecosystem services (Output 1.3) and strengthening information management systems (Output 1.4). Overall, the project will contribute to this focal area objective by: a) supporting government to mainstream the conservation of biodiversity into priority sectors (particularly agriculture, forestry and tourism) through improved inter-sectoral governance, planning and information management within the framework of the NBSAP; and b) improving land/seascape planning and management to be more biodiversity-positive, with a focus on working with communities to diversify towards green livelihoods that deliver new income while also contributing to biodiversity conservation. Mainstreaming will be delivered through improved intersectoral coordination, better regulations, sharing of information and improved tools for decision-making, technical capacity building, demonstration and knowledge sharing and provision of incentives for communities to change current practices that are degrading biodiversity.

BD2-6 Address direct drivers to protect habitats and species through the prevention, control and management of Invasive Alien Species. Under this focal area objective, the project will support the implementation of comprehensive prevention, early detection, control and management frameworks that emphasize a risk management approach. The GEF investment will support: a) the finalization and implementation of the NISSAP including implementation tools and establishment of effective governance; b) the strengthening of quarantine services and biosecurity controls and systems at entry-exit ports and key ports for inter-island movements; c) technical capacity building, demonstrating risk assessment, prevention and early detection and response, including updated and strengthened EDRR and ERPs; d) demonstration of technical best practices in ecosystem-based approaches to preventing, managing and controlling IAS emphasizing risk assessment and avoidance of threats; e) awareness raising and knowledge sharing including with other IAS initiatives across the Pacific. Safeguard measures will be demonstrated in twelve landscape/seascape target areas to protect and rehabilitate biodiversity and food production systems from IAS, as well as from unsustainable land use practices. Successful IAS control measures will also be extended to other priority sites.

LD1-1 Maintain or improve flow of agro-ecosystem services to sustain food production and livelihoods through Sustainable Land Management. Under Component 3, The project will focus on production landscapes (smallholder farms) through support for integrated landscape management and restoration of production areas, in particular where agricultural management practices underpin the livelihoods of rural farmers and improved farmer incomes will be used as an indicator of project success. The project will include support for improved access to finance, extension services, farmer training schools and technical assistance for smallholders to implement innovative agricultural practices for sustainable land management that achieve LDN, protect ecosystem services, reduce threats from IAS and improve incomes. Project SLM interventions will target the drivers of land degradation within a framework of

integrated community planning, governance and management at landscape scale. Upscaling will be achieved through agricultural training and extension programmes and sharing of successful interventions through community exchanges and visits (Component 4). Strategies pursued with the private sector will target SMEs that are promoting innovations in agriculture and livestock production systems. Scaling up of SLM practices and the restoration of landscapes will be particularly supported, including the use of locally adapted species, agro-forestry, farmer-managed natural regeneration, and practices for sustainable supply of wood and biomass energy.

LD-2-5 Create enabling environments to support scaling up and mainstreaming of SLM and LDN. Key modules of the guidance have been captured within project outputs at PPG stage, e.g. building participatory multi-sector coordination around LDN goals, objectives and interventions, integration with existing land use planning processes and systems for better monitoring LDN progress. Through Component 1, the proposed project contributes to this focal area objective by putting in place a coordination platform for promoting LDN and mainstreaming SLM in Solomon Islands and will lay the groundwork for LDN target setting. The project will support the strengthening of the legal, policy and land use planning framework, support decision makers at national and provincial levels to identify the baselines (LCC, NP and SOC) and set national targets for LDN (including ensuring technical capacity exists in MAL to monitor the core LDN indicators). It would review and update of the Agriculture and Livestock Act and supporting regulations; the revision of the Agriculture Sector Growth and Improvement Plan (ASGIP) 2021-2030 to include LD and ambitions towards LDN for Solomon Islands; and review, catalyze any required changes then support endorsement of the NRLUP and (v) support implementation of revised and endorsed RLUP at community level in the 4 demonstration target sites. In particular the technical guidelines for LDN and SLM best practices including climate smart SLM agriculture and livestock systems for rural communities will be prepared to support upscaling across provinces and communities, supported by appropriate training of extension officers.

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[56] The strategy will reflect the COVID-19 pandemic and understanding that has emerged on the risks of reliance on international tourism to have diversified, resilient green livelihoods.

[57] UNCCD and FAO. 2020.Land Degradation Neutrality in Small Island Developing States. Technical report. Bonn, Germany.

[58] For IAS, there are some learning materials available through SPREP?s Pacific Invasives Learning Network (PILN) or and others being developed by other GEF investments such as the IAS training modules being developed with the College of Micronesia by the GEF-6 IAS project in the Federated States of Micronesia.

[59] http://www.biosecurity.gov.sb/Portals/93/Content/Documents/Resources/BSI%20Fees%20and%20Charges.pdf

[56] https://pipap.sprep.org/content/bioraps-biological-rapid-assessment

[57] For land users, the ?learning by doing? farmer field schools (FFSs) approach is recommended rather than demo farms, which are passive would be very difficult to develop in the SAFE demo landscapes, due to the absence of extension staff in these communities. See resources at https://www.fao.org/farmer-field-schools/home/en/

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[61] This will also provide an adaptive management mechanism for the project if COVID-19 travel restrictions are prolonged.

[62] Pacific Environment Portal (PEP), Invasive Species Battler Resources Base, Pacific Invasive Learning Network, Pacific Climate Change Portal, Pacific Islands Protected Area Portal (PIPAP), Pacific Network for Environment assessments (PNEA)

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5) ***Incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF and co-financing***

Baseline	**Alternative to be put in place**	**Project impact including GEBs**
Enabling framework and capacity for biodiversity conservation and nature-based economy		

Key laws for biodiversity conservation are in place at national level, but these are not adequate to address targets in terms of land degradation neutrality (LDN), management of land degradation in agriculture and livestock management, and promotion of biodiversity friendly blue/green livelihoods. There is also lack of transposition of legislation into policies, planning and activities of different sectors including at provincial level. Lack of comprehensive and coordinated organization structure for cohesive action for biodiversity conservation, management of land degradation and IAS prevention and management Government lacks the information and tools to mainstream biodiversity conservation into its planning and activities.	Laws and regulation on agriculture and rural land use policies adequately target land degradation improvements Enhanced intersectoral governance mechanisms (committees, MOUs, ordinances) are in place at national level to mainstream biodiversity across sectors and in the provinces, resulting in more harmonized and integrated approaches and efficient use of resources at landscape/seascape levels. Improved information on biodiversity available through modern information technology and targeted communications activities to aid government decision-making and M&E, and to raise public awareness. Capacity for mainstreaming biodiversity conservation and safeguarding globally significant and endemic biodiversity is raised at all levels, with improved knowledge of best practices: in government, in the private sector and in communities across selected land/seascapes.	Improved government and provincial capacity and coordination for conserving Solomon Islands globally significant and endemic biodiversity, including at least 254 species on the IUCN Red List. Improved information, knowledge and awareness of the value biodiversity. Reduction of threats to biodiversity from unsustainable use of natural resources by different sectors through focus on an integrated landscape/seascape planning and management approach and enhancement of the green/blue economy. Targeted conservation measures for important or flagship species in demonstration land/seascapes. A priority list of species identified at PPG stage will be further refined to target a few number of key species. Increased capacity and skills to address conservation needs of these priority species
Invasive alien species and biosecurity		

IAS risks will continue to increase across the terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems of the Solomon Islands for the following reasons: Lack of a comprehensive policy, strategy or plan on biosecurity that can effectively ensure prevention of new IAS into the country and transmission between islands Priority lists of IAS are absent or outdated and there is poor information management. There is inadequate coordination between Ministries to address the scale of the threat posed by IAS. Lack of equipment and capacity at ports and other entry points for the detection and avoidance of incursions by IAS. Officials responsible for biosecurity and private sector trade-related representatives lack training in biosecurity and IAS pathways. Communities are unaware of the threats and risks from IAS and are not engaged in their prevention and management. There is no guidance and there are no demonstrations of how IAS can be managed to protect ecosystems, biodiversity and food production systems.	National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan (NISSAP) adopted and under implementation through coordinated action. Improved information, tools, guidance, knowledge sharing and capacity on IAS. Ports and other potential entry points are better equipped and capacitated to detect, control and prevent IAS incursions. There is improved capacity and protocols for prevention of IAS movement across islands Demonstrations of IAS management at ecosystem scale.	Comprehensive pathways approach (prevention, early detection, control and management) established. Improved understanding and awareness of the threats and risks posed by IAS bring about changed attitudes and responses to IAS Stronger community and private sector participation in IAS prevention and management. Improved capacity to avoid new IAS incursions and to manage existing threats, with no new incursions and reduced spread of existing incursions.
Combating land degradation and achieving LDN		

Land degradation will continue to increase and land degradation neutrality will not be achieved because of the lack of knowledge of LDN in MAL and the lack of integration of SLM and LDN targets and approaches into policies plans and practices. MAL will continue to lack capacity in its extension services to promote SLM practices and LDN. On the ground, production systems will continue to make inroads into natural ecosystems, damaging biodiversity and ecosystem services. Farmers will not have access to SLM, CSA and green farming practices and technologies that will allow them to conserve soils and water.	LDN introduced to MAL and integrated into policies and plans. Improved information, tools, guidance, knowledge sharing and capacity on SLM and LDN. Demonstrations of SLM at ecosystem scale. Knowledge sharing on SLM and LDN.	SLM and LDN approaches integrated into policies and plans. Improved understanding and awareness of the threats and risks posed by land degradation to ecosystem services. Improved capacity for SLM and LDN through establishment of Farmer Training School programs and training of trainers. 14,429 ha of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems. 61,289 ha of landscape under improved management to benefit biodiversity (excluding PAs)
Community participation and green livelihoods for land/seascape conservation		

Ecologically outstanding land/seascapes and their globally significant biodiversity continue to be degraded by unsustainable use of natural resources and IAS. Public awareness of the benefits provided by biodiversity and functioning ecosystems is low and hence participation in biodiversity conservation is limited. Indigenous knowledge is rarely considered in decision-making by government. As a result there are frequent conflicts between communities (and with government and the private sector) over access to natural resources. There are no economic or other incentives for communities to manage their natural resources wisely.	Integrated ecosystem-based community landscape/seascape management plans integrate SLM, CSA, and blue/green livelihoods improvement measures agreed and implemented through inclusive approaches with all stakeholders. Communities participating in improved management of land/seascapes and conservation of globally threatened and endemic species and IAS prevention and management measures using local indigenous knowledge and best practices.	Improved management of 61,829 ha of priority landscapes (excluding protected areas) to benefit biodiversity At least 27,364 ha of terrestrial protected areas under improved management (through integration of biodiversity conservation, IAS prevention and management approaches) in 3 national parks and 2 community. Conservation areas) At least 39,400 ha of marine protected areas under improved management (through integration of sustainable resource management practices, IAS prevention and management) in 1 national park and a conglomerate of community fish reserves Unsustainable livelihoods replaced by blue/green alternatives through demonstration of community-led sustainable use of natural resources, providing a model for elsewhere in Solomon Islands and regionally. 819,118 tCO_2 sequestrated or avoided over a 20-year period At least 18,238 direct beneficiaries (50% female) .

Baseline	Alternative to be put in place	Project impact including GEBs
Enabling framework and capacity for biodiversity conservation and nature-based economy		

Key laws for biodiversity conservation are in place at national level, but these are not adequate to address targets in terms of land degradation neutrality (LDN), management of land degradation in agriculture and livestock management, and promotion of biodiversity friendly blue/green livelihoods. There is also lack of transposition of legislation into policies, planning and activities of different sectors including at provincial level. Lack of comprehensive and coordinated organization structure for cohesive action for biodiversity conservation, management of land degradation and IAS prevention and management Government lacks the information and tools to mainstream biodiversity conservation into its planning and activities.	Laws and regulation on agriculture and rural land use policies adequately target land degradation improvements Enhanced intersectoral governance mechanisms (committees, MOUs, ordinances) are in place at national level to mainstream biodiversity across sectors and in the provinces, resulting in more harmonized and integrated approaches and efficient use of resources at landscape/seascape levels. Improved information on biodiversity available through modern information technology and targeted communications activities to aid government decision-making and M&E, and to raise public awareness. Capacity for mainstreaming biodiversity conservation and safeguarding globally significant and endemic biodiversity is raised at all levels, with improved knowledge of best practices: in government, in the private sector and in communities across selected land/seascapes.	Improved government and provincial capacity and coordination for conserving Solomon Islands globally significant and endemic biodiversity, including at least 254 species on the IUCN Red List. Improved information, knowledge and awareness of the value biodiversity. Reduction of threats to biodiversity from unsustainable use of natural resources by different sectors through focus on an integrated landscape/seascape planning and management approach and enhancement of the green/blue economy. Targeted conservation measures for important or flagship species in demonstration land/seascapes. A priority list of species identified at PPG stage will be further refined to target a few number of key species. Increased capacity and skills to address conservation needs of these priority species
Invasive alien species and biosecurity		

IAS risks will continue to increase across the terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems of the Solomon Islands for the following reasons: Lack of a comprehensive policy, strategy or plan on biosecurity that can effectively ensure prevention of new IAS into the country and transmission between islands Priority lists of IAS are absent or outdated and there is poor information management. There is inadequate coordination between Ministries to address the scale of the threat posed by IAS. Lack of equipment and capacity at ports and other entry points for the detection and avoidance of incursions by IAS. Officials responsible for biosecurity and private sector trade-related representatives lack training in biosecurity and IAS pathways. Communities are unaware of the threats and risks from IAS and are not engaged in their prevention and management. There is no guidance and there are no demonstrations of how IAS can be managed to protect ecosystems, biodiversity and food production systems.	National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan (NISSAP) adopted and under implementation through coordinated action. Improved information, tools, guidance, knowledge sharing and capacity on IAS. Ports and other potential entry points are better equipped and capacitated to detect, control and prevent IAS incursions. There is improved capacity and protocols for prevention of IAS movement across islands Demonstrations of IAS management at ecosystem scale.	Comprehensive pathways approach (prevention, early detection, control and management) established. Improved understanding and awareness of the threats and risks posed by IAS bring about changed attitudes and responses to IAS Stronger community and private sector participation in IAS prevention and management. Improved capacity to avoid new IAS incursions and to manage existing threats, with no new incursions and reduced spread of existing incursions.
Combating land degradation and achieving LDN		

Land degradation will continue to increase and land degradation neutrality will not be achieved because of the lack of knowledge of LDN in MAL and the lack of integration of SLM and LDN targets and approaches into policies plans and practices. MAL will continue to lack capacity in its extension services to promote SLM practices and LDN. On the ground, production systems will continue to make inroads into natural ecosystems, damaging biodiversity and ecosystem services. Farmers will not have access to SLM, CSA and green farming practices and technologies that will allow them to conserve soils and water.	LDN introduced to MAL and integrated into policies and plans. Improved information, tools, guidance, knowledge sharing and capacity on SLM and LDN. Demonstrations of SLM at ecosystem scale. Knowledge sharing on SLM and LDN.	SLM and LDN approaches integrated into policies and plans. Improved understanding and awareness of the threats and risks posed by land degradation to ecosystem services. Improved capacity for SLM and LDN through establishment of Farmer Training School programs and training of trainers. 14,429 ha of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems.
Community participation and green livelihoods for land/seascape conservation		

Ecologically outstanding land/seascapes and their globally significant biodiversity continue to be degraded by unsustainable use of natural resources and IAS. Public awareness of the benefits provided by biodiversity and functioning ecosystems is low and hence participation in biodiversity conservation is limited. Indigenous knowledge is rarely considered in decision-making by government. As a result there are frequent conflicts between communities (and with government and the private sector) over access to natural resources. There are no economic or other incentives for communities to manage their natural resources wisely.	Integrated ecosystem-based community landscape/seascape management plans integrate SLM, CSA, and blue/green livelihoods improvement measures agreed and implemented through inclusive approaches with all stakeholders. Communities participating in improved management of land/seascapes and conservation of globally threatened and endemic species and IAS prevention and management measures using local indigenous knowledge and best practices.	Improved management of 61,829 ha of priority landscapes (excluding protected areas) to benefit biodiversity At least 27,364 ha of terrestrial protected areas under improved management (through integration of biodiversity conservation, IAS prevention and management approaches) in 3 national parks and 2 community. Conservation areas) At least 39,400 ha of marine protected areas under improved management (through integration of sustainable resource management practices, IAS prevention and management) in 1 national park and a conglomerate of community fish reserves Unsustainable livelihoods replaced by blue/green alternatives through demonstration of community-led sustainable use of natural resources, providing a model for elsewhere in Solomon Islands and regionally. 819,118 tCO_2 sequestrated or avoided over a 20-year period At least 18,238 direct beneficiaries (50% female) .

6) Global environmental benefits (GEFTF)

The GEF investment will maximize this opportunity by introducing an integrated landscape/seascape management approach that will mainstream biodiversity and ecosystem considerations in the overall vision for the country. It will also remove systemic and institutional barriers to mainstreaming integration of biodiversity consideration, land and marine ecosystem management and IAS prevention, control and management at the national, provincial and community local levels, backed by incentives for community-based natural resource management to make sustainable land, forest and marine management compatible with effective biodiversity and ecosystem management. The support of the operationalization of the NISSAP and in general terms, the integration of IAS considerations into key sectors (i.e., agriculture, fisheries and tourism) will help to improve the management effectiveness of PAs, prevent species extinctions, sustainably conserve globally significant biodiversity, and protect and improve ecosystem function in the country; thereby strengthening the national economy and local livelihoods, and generating global environmental benefits. Specific measures to manage priority IAS as well as target species, habitats and ecosystems that will benefit from project interventions within the landscapes/seascapes will help improve conservation of indigenous biodiversity and reduction of threats from IAS. The emphasis of promotion of SLM, CSA and LDN across globally important land/seascapes, supported by more resilient and engaged communities demonstrating the value of a nature-based economy will deliver climate change mitigation and adaptation co-benefits.

The project will generate global environmental benefits for biodiversity and ecosystem services over approximately 253,061 ha in 12 landscape/seascapes that includes a mix of community managed conservation areas (terrestrial and marine), natural habitats and area of productive land. The global biodiversity significance of these areas is apparent from their inclusion in the East Melanesian Biodiversity Hotspot as well as being part of the Coral Triangle Initiative, supporting at least 254 globally threatened species included on the IUCN Red List, plus a vast array of endemic species. The project will lead to improved management of the remaining areas of natural ecosystems and reduction of the threats from IAS. This will benefit the globally significant biodiversity that depends on them and contribute to the GEF core indicators as follows: 27,364 ha of terrestrial protected areas under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Core Indicator 1); 39,400 ha of marine protected areas under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Core Indicator 2); 61,829 ha of landscapes (excluding protected areas) under improved practices to benefit biodiversity and 14,429 ha will be under sustainable land management in production systems (Core Indicator 4); 819,118 tCO2e greenhouse gas emission mitigated over a 20-year period (Core Indicator 6) through avoided forest degradation from expansion of agricultural areas that will be avoided by conversion of current unsustainable smallholder practices to SLM. The project offers strong potential for climate change mitigation and adaptation co-benefits through nature-based solutions that lead to enhanced

carbon sequestration in soils and forests and coastal and marine ecosystems as well as improved protection from severe weather events ? floods, storms, droughts etc. These co-benefits will be integrated into project activities as far as possible. Project implementation will provide direct benefits to 18,238 people (50% female) in the demonstration land/seascapes who depend on the functioning of these ecosystems for the rich ecosystem services they provide. The project will demonstrate livelihood benefits (diversification and improved income) through business support for blue/green livelihoods options to improve or replace existing unsustainable livelihoods (including smallholder farmers) in the demonstration land/seascapes, with the potential for wide replication. This will result in reduced conflicts between communities over natural resources and with the government and private sector, as well as reducing threats to biodiversity.

7) Innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up

Innovation: The project will build on and try to replicate proven ?best practices? from the country and Pacific region to support an integrated focus on conserving the endemic and globally threatened biodiversity of Solomon Islands, on addressing land degradation, and on the addressing the impacts of IAS across terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems ? in a way that aligns to the blue-green economy opportunities linked to the government?s broader development strategy and longer-term COVID-19 recovery potential. While, the proposed integrated landscape/seascape approach will benefit greatly from existing high levels of ownership of existing community managed forest and marine protected areas, it will further try to integrate the existing community managed areas into a broader and holistic reef to ridge approach through innovative coordination mechanisms and platforms that involve a wider range of government, non-governmental and community partnerships. This move from a local village planning approach to a more holistic landscape/seascape approach is an innovative and modern approach to mainstreaming biodiversity and biosecurity that is rarely seen in the developing world. It is also innovative in that it facilitates effective ecological linkages between production areas (community lands) and community Protected Areas (terrestrial and marine), High Conservation Value Forests (HCVFs) and wetlands and the implementation of conservation practices at a land/seascape scale, thereby guaranteeing the long-term conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services for the country, and not just the natural sites. The strengthening and improved functionality of biosecurity measures will provide a national multi-stakeholder and multi-sector coordination mechanism for biodiversity conservation, IAS control and management and biosecurity activities will ensure that resources and capacity are being used as effectively as possible is Innovative for the Solomon Islands. Other opportunities for innovation include the establishment of a cadre of community-based farmer trainee practitioners trained in a variety of semi-technical topics to build capacity within communities. Specifically, the project will for the first time in Solomon Islands: support an intersectoral committee with a mandate for mainstreaming biodiversity across sectors, overseeing implementation of the NBSAP and elaborating a strategy for a blue green economic pathway (Output 1.1); provide a coordination platform and initiate the foundations for achieving land degradation neutrality (LDN)

(Output 1.2); along with demonstrate integrated approaches to biodiversity conservation, IAS management and SLM across four land/seascapes (Component 3). Communities will be at the heart of the project, leading the improved management of biodiversity with support of government, and with citizen science as a new way of gathering data, information and traditional knowledge for assessments and monitoring to support adaptive management. The project will actively seek to identify how citizen science data collection methods and techniques can be used to leverage additional data on species distribution and land condition (including traditional knowledge and information on species and resource condition), while also raising awareness and engagement of communities.

-

Sustainability: The long-term commitment of the Government of the Solomon Islands to protecting its natural endowments and biosecurity provides very positive signs for sustainability of project impact. The project will further build on this commitment, by helping support and build the capacity of permanent entities such as government departments, decentralized bodies, community-based mechanisms, traditional governance, existing local CSOs, so that further progress after completion of the project does not depend on external funding for follow-up activities. This will optimize the future investments for conservation of globally threatened and endemic species and increase sustainability of project IAS and SLM outcomes. Specifically: under Component 1, the project will support implementation of the existing NBSAP and National Rural Land Use Policy, build on the structure and work of the existing Environmental Advisory Committee to establish Biodiversity mainstreaming Council and IAS Council under the Prime Minister?s Office (through government decision, specific TORs and operational procedures, funding agreements and MOUs with participating entities), build capacity of existing extension services and use/strengthen existing portals for sharing information; Under Component 2, the project will support finalization of the draft NISSAP and strengthen and build on the existing capacity and frameworks of the Biosecurity Department of MAL; under Component 3, demonstration land/seascapes were selected to build on existing community initiatives and the project will prioritize working through existing extension services, NGOs, farmer cooperatives etc.; under Component 4, knowledge sharing will make great use of existing regional platforms including those developed and managed by SPREP and supported by other GEF investments. In the Solomon Islands, ownership and resource rights to land, reefs, and fisheries are enshrined in constitutionally recognized customary ownership. Any successful conservation initiative needs the support of local clans and communities to be sustainable. Thus, the project will employ a community-driven, participatory approach to support community natural resource management governance systems. To facilitate long-term sustainability of existing biosecurity activities in the Solomon Islands, the project will ensure the following: (i) support tailored training and capacity building through the Farmer Training School approach to strengthen functionality and capability of extension workers; (ii) strengthened collaborations for comprehensive SLM management and IAS prevention and management, including in case of the latter strengthening of the agencies that are responsible for biosecurity; (iii) outreach and awareness programs delivered at national, provincial and village levels in parallel to build local community and stakeholder support for SLM< forest and marine resource conservation. And biosecurity and IAS control and management; and (iv) Identification of the best option for cost-recovery systems to support biosecurity.

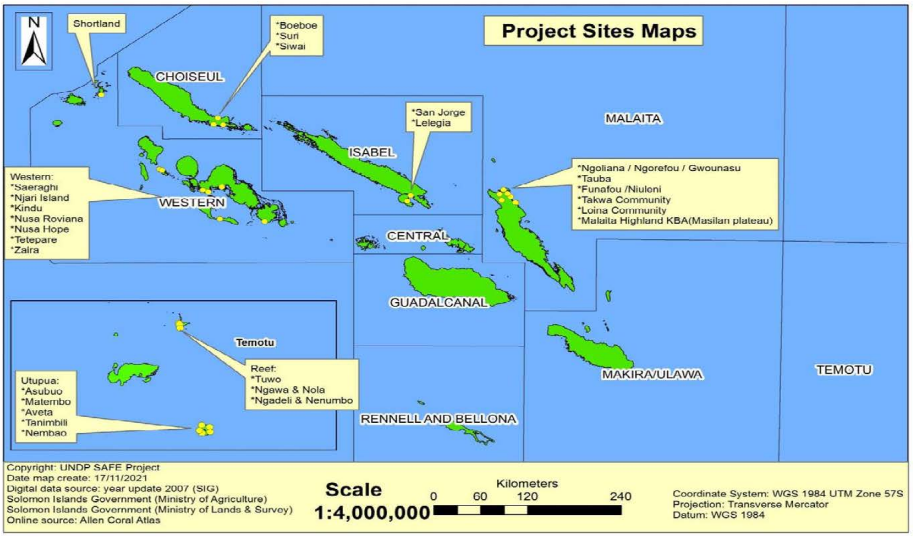
Potential for scaling-up: Under Component 1, support for NBSAP implementation and delivering the foundations for LDN, supported by improved coordination, regulations and tools, and capacity building at national and provincial levels, will give high potential for up-scaling. Similarly, Under Component 2, approval of the NISSAP will provide a strategic framework for addressing IAS impacts across the country. Demonstrations of integrated approaches to biodiversity conservation, IAS management and SLM in Component 3 will have high potential for replication, both with additional communities in the concerned provinces, but also nationally. Component 4 has a particular focus on mechanisms to support upscaling and replication nationally through the communication strategy and plan, and through knowledge sharing mechanisms. The project will seek to develop scaling up and replication mechanisms in close coordination with the GEF-6 EREPA project to leverage this earlier GEF investment and build upon mechanisms it has established. Further the location of the respective project landscapes/seascapes in different provinces (with the exception of Malaita Province in which the two projects have a demonstration landscape) will further support the potential for replication and upscaling between the two projects. This will be supported by knowledge management activities and platforms elaborated under Output 4.2 that was developed at PPG stage. The project is also designed to provide demonstration models for up-scaling in the country. In particular, the capacity building and the development of best practices to control and manage land degradation and IAS will strongly support up-scaling. Ensuring that activities, impacts and lessons learnt from the demonstration sites are disseminated widely helps generate a bottom-up demand for similar activities throughout the country. The project?s investment component will seek to develop synergies among rural development actors and programs with an objective of raising additional emphasis on SLM and IAS prevention and management will expand current models of sustainable resource use and alternative livelihood activities within and outside of the targeted landscapes/seascapes.

1b. Project Map and Coordinates

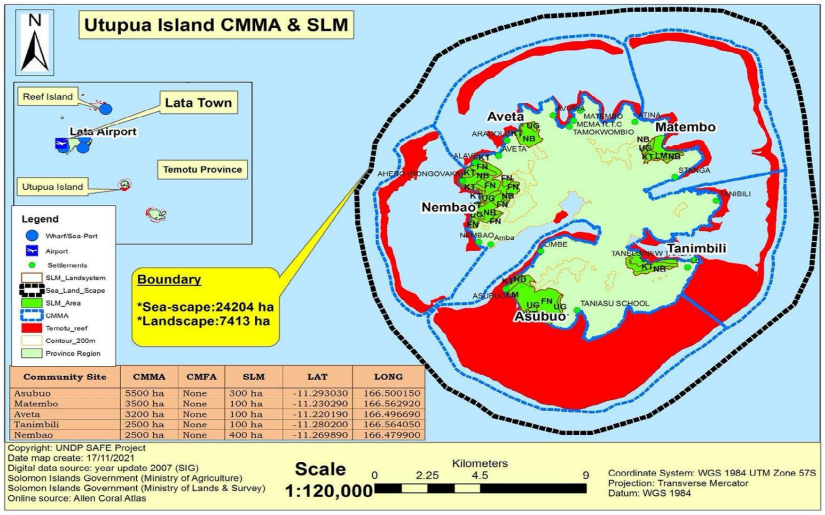
Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions will take place.

Please see attached Annex 3 for full Maps and Coordinates attached to the portal:

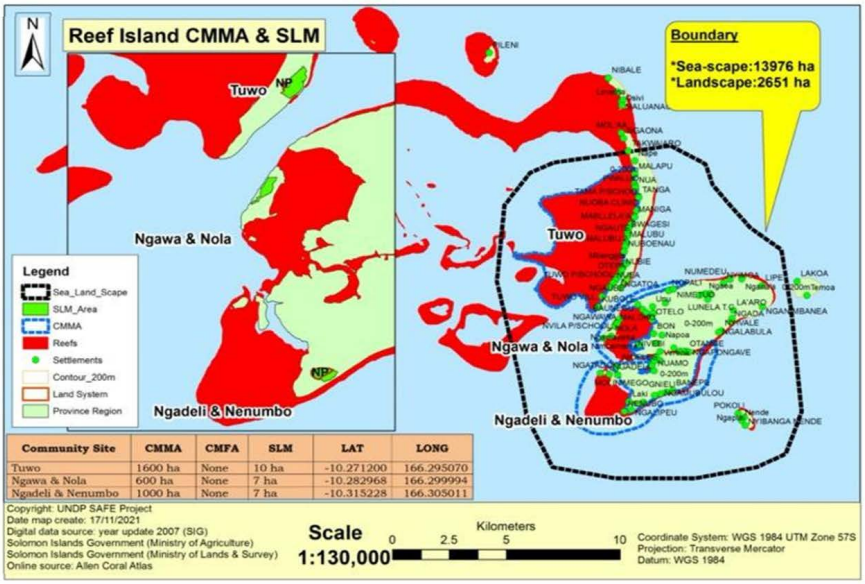
Solomon Islands Overview Map



Target Site A: Reef Islands and Utupua Seascape

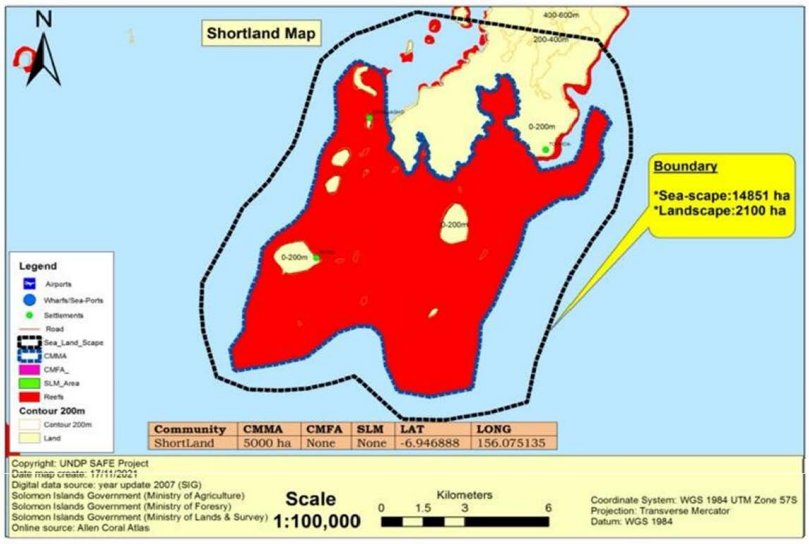


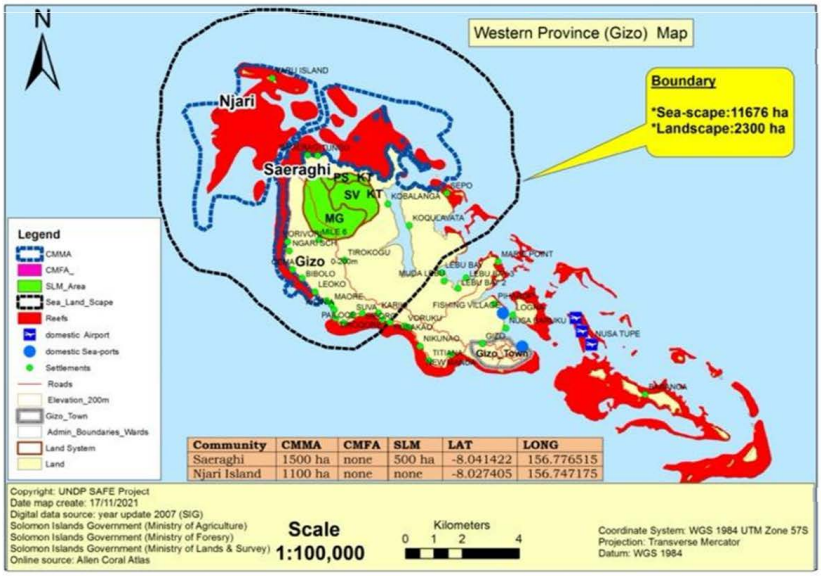
Community Site	CMMA	CMFA	SLM	LAT	LONG
Asubuo	5500 ha	None	300 ha	-11.293030	166.500150
Matembo	3500 ha	None	100 ha	-11.230290	166.562920
Aveta	3200 ha	None	100 ha	-11.220190	166.496690
Tanimbili	2500 ha	None	100 ha	-11.280200	166.564050
Nembao	2500 ha	None	400 ha	-11.269890	166.479900



Community Site	CMMA	CMFA	SLM	LAT	LONG
Tuwo	1600 ha	None	10 ha	-10.271200	166.295070
Ngawa & Nola	600 ha	None	7 ha	-10.282968	166.299994
Ngadeli & Nenumbo	1000 ha	None	7 ha	-10.315228	166.305011

Target Site B: Western Province




N
Western Province (Gizo) Map
Njari
Saeraghi
Gizo
Gizo_Town
Boundary
*Sea-scape:11676 ha
*Landscape:2300 ha
Legend
CMMA
CMFA_
SLM_Area
Sea_Land_Scape
Reefs
domestic Airport
domestic Sea-ports
Settlements
Roads
Elevation_200m
Gizo_Town
Admin_Boundaries_Wards
Land System
Land
Community | CMMA | CMFA | SLM | LAT | LONG
Saeraghi | 1500 ha | none | 500 ha | -8.041422 | 156.776515
Njari Island | 1100 ha | none | none | -8.027405 | 156.747175
Copyright: UNDP SAFE Project
Date map create: 17/11/2021
Digital data source: year update 2007 (SIG)
Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Agriculture)
Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Foresry)
Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Lands & Survey)
Online source: Allen Coral Atlas
Scale
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Kilometers
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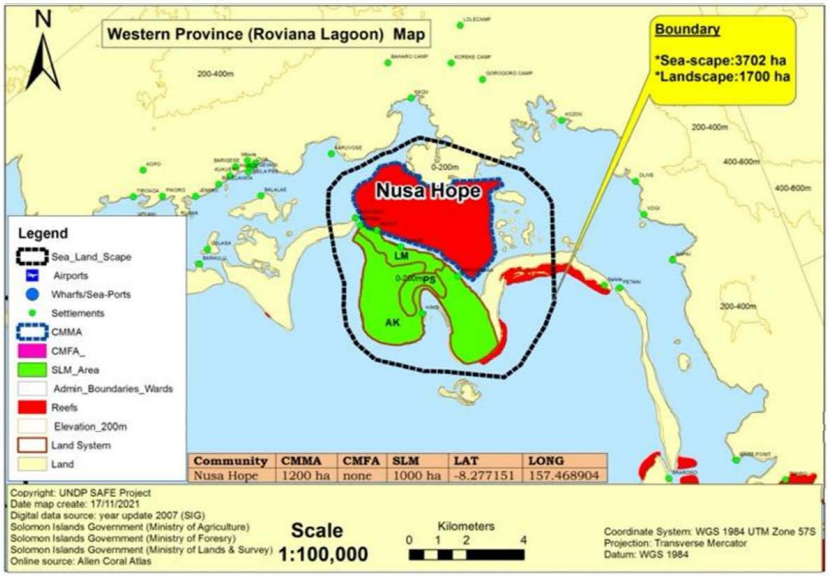
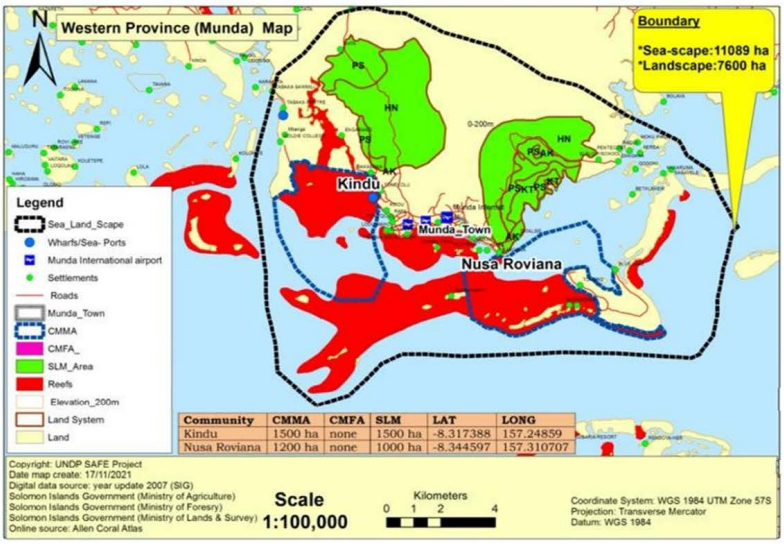
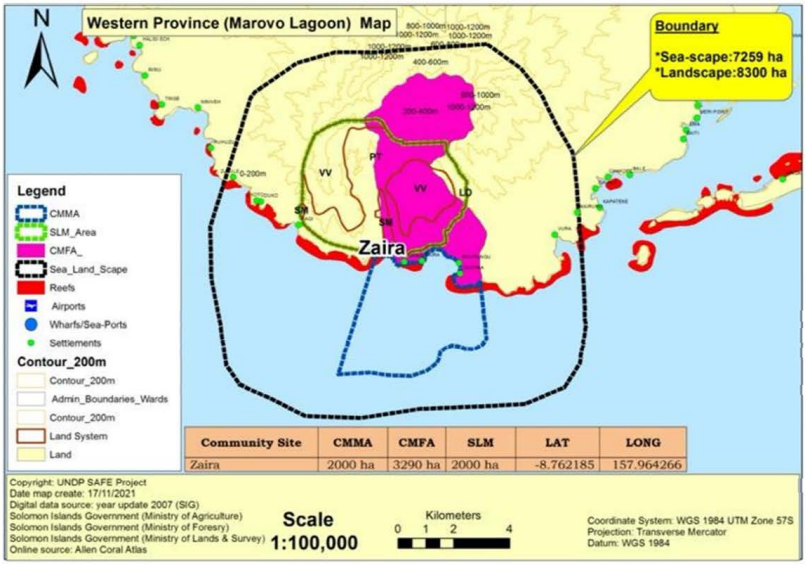
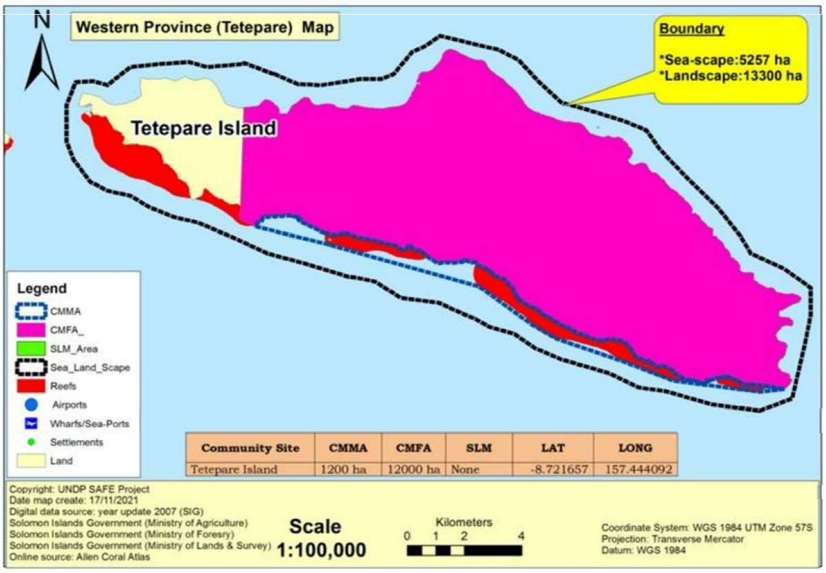
Coordinate System: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 57S
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: WGS 1984

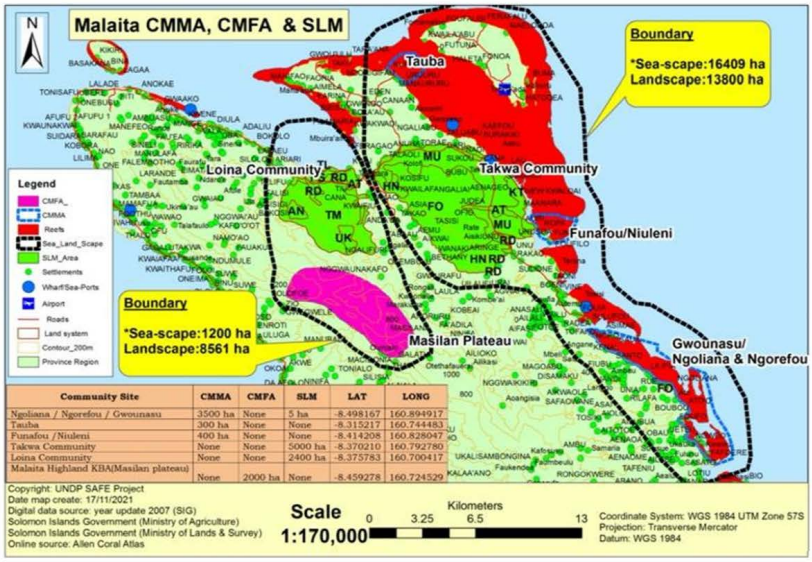

N
Western Province (Roviana Lagoon) Map
Boundary
*Sea-scape:3702 ha
*Landscape:1700 ha
Nusa Hope
LM
AK
0-200m
200-400m
400-600m
Legend
Sea_Land_Scape
Airports
Wharfs/Sea-Ports
Settlements
CMMA
CMFA_
SLM_Area
Admin_Boundaries_Wards
Reefs
Elevation_200m
Land System
Land
Community | CMMA | CMFA | SLM | LAT | LONG
Nusa Hope | 1200 ha | none | 1000 ha | -8.277151 | 157.468904
Copyright: UNDP SAFE Project
Date map create: 17/11/2021
Digital data source: year update 2007 (SIG)
Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Agriculture)
Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Foresry)
Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Lands & Survey)
Online source: Allen Coral Atlas
Scale
1:100,000
Kilometers
0 1 2 4
Coordinate System: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 57S
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: WGS 1984


N
Western Province (Munda) Map
Boundary
*Sea-scape:11089 ha
*Landscape:7600 ha
Kindu
Munda Town
Nusa Roviana
Legend
Sea_Land_Scape
Wharfs/Sea- Ports
Munda International airport
Settlements
Roads
Munda_Town
CMMA
CMFA_
SLM_Area
Reefs
Elevation_200m
Land System
Land
Community | CMMA | CMFA | SLM | LAT | LONG
Kindu | 1500 ha | none | 1500 ha | -8.317388 | 157.24859
Nusa Roviana | 1200 ha | none | 1000 ha | -8.344597 | 157.310707
Copyright: UNDP SAFE Project
Date map create: 17/11/2021
Digital data source: year update 2007 (SIG)
Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Agriculture)
Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Foresry)
Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Lands & Survey)
Online source: Allen Coral Atlas
Scale
1:100,000
Kilometers
0 1 2 4
Coordinate System: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 57S
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: WGS 1984


N
Western Province (Marovo Lagoon) Map
Boundary
*Sea-scape:7259 ha
*Landscape:8300 ha
Legend
CMMA
SLM_Area
CMFA_
Sea_Land_Scape
Reefs
Airports
Wharfs/Sea-Ports
Settlements
Contour_200m
Contour_200m
Admin_Boundaries_Wards
Contour_200m
Land System
Land
Zaira
VV
PF
LD
SW
Community Site | CMMA | CMFA | SLM | LAT | LONG
Zaira | 2000 ha | 3290 ha | 2000 ha | -8.762185 | 157.964266
Copyright: UNDP SAFE Project
Date map create: 17/11/2021
Digital data source: year update 2007 (SIG)
Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Agriculture)
Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Foresry)
Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Lands & Survey)
Online source: Allen Coral Atlas
Scale
1:100,000
Kilometers
0 1 2 4
Coordinate System: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 57S
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: WGS 1984

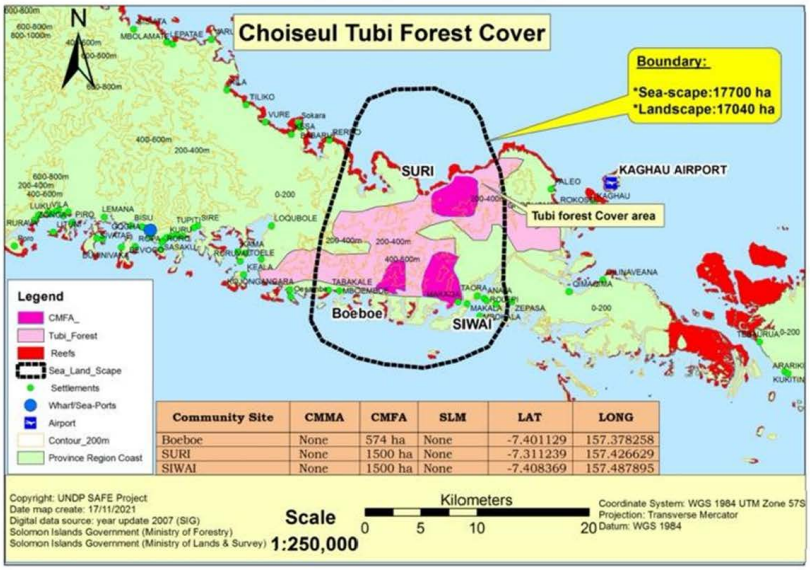

N
Western Province (Tetepare) Map
Boundary
*Sea-scape:5257 ha
*Landscape:13300 ha
Tetepare Island
Legend
CMMA
CMFA_
SLM_Area
Sea_Land_Scape
Reefs
Airports
Wharfs/Sea-Ports
Settlements
Land
Community Site | CMMA | CMFA | SLM | LAT | LONG
Tetepare Island | 1200 ha | 12000 ha | None | -8.721657 | 157.444092
Copyright: UNDP SAFE Project
Date map create: 17/11/2021
Digital data source: year update 2007 (SIG)
Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Agriculture)
Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Foresry)
Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Lands & Survey)
Online source: Allen Coral Atlas
Scale
1:100,000
Kilometers
0 1 2 4
Coordinate System: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 57S
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: WGS 1984

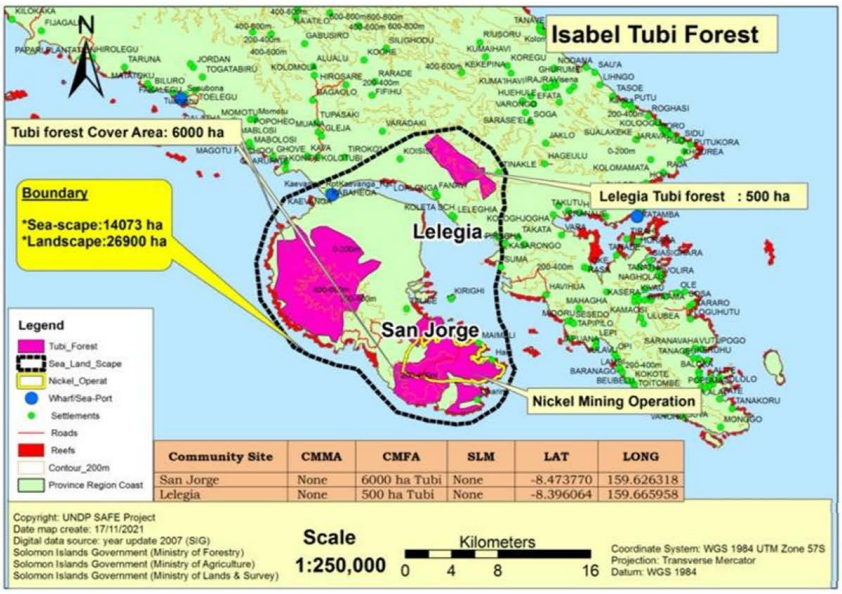
Target Site C: Malaita



Community Site	CMMA	CMFA	SLM	LAT	LONG
Ngoliana / Ngorefou / Gwounasu	3500 ha	None	5 ha	-8.498167	160.894917
Tauba	300 ha	None	None	-8.315217	160.744483
Funafou /Niuleni	400 ha	None	None	-8.414208	160.828047
Takwa Community	None	None	5000 ha	-8.370210	160.792780
Loina Community	None	None	2400 ha	-8.375783	160.700417
Malaita Highland KBA(Masilan plateau)	None	2000 ha	None	-8.459278	160.724529

Target Site D: Choiseul/Isabel





1c. Child Project?

If this is a child project under a program, describe how the components contribute to the overall program impact.

2. Stakeholders

Select the stakeholders that have participated in consultations during the project identification phase:

Civil Society Organizations Yes

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities

Private Sector Entities

If none of the above, please explain why:

Please provide the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent assessment.

Table 3 Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Stakeholder	Roles and Responsibilities / Mandate	Engagement During Implementation
[Executing Agency] MECDM: Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management & Meteorology (MECDM) http://www.mecdm.gov.sb/ Environment and Conservation Division (ECD) Climate Change Division (CCD)	The MECDM, through the ECD, is mandated with overseeing environmental management including the administration of the Environment Act, Protected Area Act, the Wildlife Management Act and the objectives of CBD (1992). The ECD serves as the secretariat of the NBSAP. The ECD?s responsibilities include the conservation and management of: (i) the environment and biodiversity; (ii) the protected areas network; (iii) waste management and pollution control; (iv) development control; and, (v) environmental training. The MECDM supports synergy between biodiversity, climate change, and disaster risk management. A project coordination office supports synergies between donor-funded projects.	The MECDM is the Ministry with responsibility for project execution and will be involved in all aspects of governance and implementation as well as potentially hosting the project management office for the SAFE Project.

[Implementing Partner] MAL: Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAL) Biosecurity Department Biosecurity Solomon Islands (BSI) http://www.biosecurity.gov.sb/	The MAL is mandated with overseeing the agriculture and agroforestry sectors as well as managing and promoting food security. The MAL is the lead Ministry for the UNCCD and the land degradation aspects of the project. BSI is mandated with managing the biosecurity risks associated with the movement of goods (trade) and people into and out of Solomon Islands. Effective biosecurity is essential for protecting subsistence agriculture for food security, the domestic production of cash crops for sale and export, and for the protection of the natural environment which is fundamental to tourism and log export industries.	The MAL is a key project partner for biosecurity and IAS, and for sustainable land management. The MAL will be the lead executing partner for Outputs 1.2 and 3.3. The Biosecurity Department protocols at ports of entry that are implemented to manage and control invasive pests and diseases will be the baseline for many of the protocols and systems to address IAS. BSI will also play an important role in border control and collaborating with ECD for enforcing IAS threats and biodiversity-related trades. The Agriculture Planning and Land Use Department and Agriculture Extension and Training Department will be the key partners in SLM work.
MOFT: Customs and Excise Division (Ministry of Finance and Treasury)	Key services of the MOFT include: 1. Revenue ? to assist manufacturers/importers/exporters to take advantage of new and existing opportunities in local and international markets, whilst ensuring that the revenue base of the Solomon Islands is preserved, and voluntary compliance is encouraged. 2. Border Enforcement ? to ensure that the Solomon Islands? borders are kept safe and secure. Customs controls the movement of people and goods in and out of the country with minimum intervention to legitimate trade and travel.	The Customs and Excise Division will be a key stakeholder for border enforcement in respect of IAS management under this project. Officers will be trained to collaborate with biosecurity and ECD officers for reporting and enforcing IAS and biodiversity threats.

MFMR: Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources (MFMR) https://www.fisheries.gov.sb/	The MFMR is mandated with providing effective services to facilitate sustainable management and development of fisheries and aquatic resources for the benefit of the nation under the Fisheries Management Act 2015. The Ministry manages both offshore and inshore fisheries and plays an important role in managing licenses for the fishing industry. The MFMR also recently established a community-based resources management (CBRM) unit that supports inshore marine resources and fisheries management and marine managed areas.	The MFMR is a key partner in addressing marine biodiversity and threats from IAS in the marine environment. Their role in promoting aquaculture is critical due to the potential threat that IAS pose to indigenous species. The Ministry also manages offshore fisheries and has fisheries observers on board commercial fishing boats that will play an important role in monitoring threats to marine biodiversity and risks relating to IAS. The CBRM unit with the Ministry can support the community in the management of their marine resources.
MPNS: The Border Security Division	The main function of the MPNS is to focus on border issues with a particular focus on illegal entry. The MPNS also coordinates national security, policing, and correctional services to provide a safe and secure Solomon Islands. The MPNS is mandated with the support of corporate functions and the operations of the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) and the Correctional Services of Solomon Islands (CSSI).	The MPNS? border security offices will play an important role in providing support to the project in monitoring and enforcing biodiversity trade and IAS-related issues.
SIMA: Solomon Islands Maritime Authority (SIMA)	SIMA?s mandate includes ensuring safe vessel operations, combating marine pollution from a range of threats (including threats of a land?based source, oil spills, untreated sewage, heavy siltation, nutrient enrichment, invasive species, heavy metals from mines and shipyards, acidification, radioactive substances, marine litter, over fishing and destruction of coastal marine habitats).	SIMA is a key stakeholder in combating marine pollution and therefore one of the key stakeholders for the project.

SIPA: Solomon Islands Port Authority (SIPA)	SIPA was established under the SI Ports Authority Act, which conferred upon them jurisdiction to operate international wharfs. SIPA endeavor to be world-class services in logistics, shipping and port management. SIPA have managed two international ports of Honiara and Noro.	SIPA is a key partner for the project. SI Ports regularly fumigate containers as they have been passed around the globe and handled so many times. Although container washing has been done thoroughly, there are still harmful microbes present on each container that may prove detrimental to the flora and fauna in Solomon Islands.
Ministry of Commerce, Industry, Labor and Immigration	SI Immigration is responsible for border security, which includes attending to any aircraft or vessel that arrives at or departs from any regulated port.	Immigration will have a vested interest in contributing to the design of parts of the training programs, particularly the IAS modules.
UNDP	UNDP is a key development partner of government.	UNDP is the GEF Agency for the project. UNDP will coordinate the PPG process and ensure project development process and project documentation meet GEF and UNDP-GEF requirements. UNDP provides oversight for project implementation in accordance with GEF Agency role.
INGOs: International NGOs and initiatives 	The following international NGO partners have active programs: Foundation of the Peoples of the South Pacific (FSPI); Coral Triangle Initiative Secretariat, Conservation International (CI); International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN-Oceania); World Fish Centre (WFC); World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF); The Nature Conservancy (TNC); Rainforest Trust; Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF), Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), World Vision, Oxfam. These partners help building capacity at sector and community level depending what their project focuses on.	Synergies with ongoing projects; best practices; potential co-financing. In the demonstration landscapes, the following are already active: Ocean Watch, IUCN, CEPF, World Fish, WWF, TNC, WCS These organizations can render technical support to implement the activities of GEF 7 projects in the various project sites they work

SPREP	SPREP is a regional organization established by Governments and Administrations of the Pacific, charged with protecting and managing the environment and natural resources of the Pacific.	SPREP is currently implementing a regional invasive species project (PRISMSS), with which there are potential synergies, particularly with respect to capacity building. The project will complement ongoing initiatives implemented by SPREP, such as the Pacific Regional Invasive Species Management Support Service (PRISMSS) project.
SINU: Solomon Islands National University http://www.sinu.edu.sb/	The SINU is the only national university in the country. The School of Natural Resources and Applied Sciences within the university hosts several programs directly related to biodiversity http://www.sinu.edu.sb/snras/ including Diplomas in Environmental Studies and Tropical Forestry.	The SINU is a key partner for research, assessments, training, mobilizing students in support of the project.
PGs: Provincial governments in Temotu, Western, Central, Choiseul and Isabel Provinces	The ?devolution order? has authorized provincial governments to formulate their own regulations to devolve functions to help address environmental issues. Thus, they can make ordinance and regulations with policies to protect their environment management their resource	Provincial governments are major stakeholders of the project. PGs will support activities in demonstration land/seascapes. The support can be through their technical staff, communication transport and logistical support
Local private sector	Private sector entities active in the demonstration land/seascapes include: SolTuna, Bilikiki Cruises, Dive Solomons, and local eco-resorts.	These private sector entities are key partners for developing the nature-based economy and are potential project co-financers.

National NGOs	Solomon Islands Community Conservation Partnership (SICCP), The Solomon Islands Locally Managed Marine Areas (SILMMA) Network, Natural Resource Development Foundation (NRDF), Solomon Island Environmental Law Association (SIELA), Solomon Islands Development Trust (SIDT), Oceans Watch, Ecological Solution Solomon Islands (ESSI), Kustom Garden http://kastomgaden.org/, Live and Learn https://livelearn.org , Zaina Tina Farm, Barana Community Nature and Heritage Park Association.	These national and local NGOs will play a key role in reaching out to communities and raising awareness and provide technical support with the project team.
CBOs	CBOs are key actors for CBNRM approaches to conservation of globally threatened and endemic species and IAS management for demonstration land/seascapes including: Temotu Conservation and Sustainable Development Association (TCSDA), Bushmen Farming Network, Western Province Network for Sustainable Environment (WPNFSE), Roviana Conservation Foundation, farmers associations, Lauru Land Conference of Tribal Community in Choiseul Province. These organizations can help support at the community level as they based in the communities of the project sites.	CBOs are partners for implementation in demonstration land/seascapes.
Village Councils of Chiefs	Village Councils of chiefs have been closely involved in the production of community development and management plans, which contain both district and community actions. The actions contain activities that each community unusually carried out at the community level , The councils are well respected at community levels	Cooperation and support from Village Councils will be pivotal in determining an effective coordination mechanism for realizing the catchment approach. Village Councils of chief/elders will benefit from training and capacity building interventions.

Local Communities, Indigenous People	The GEF7 proposed project sites Communities in the four projects sites of the five provinces are the primary stakeholders for most aspects of the project, as they will benefit directly from its investments.	It is particularly important that local communities own the project with regard to their respective catchments. It is anticipated that many interventions in the target catchments will be community-based. Community members will benefit from training and capacity building interventions as well as being provided with an opportunity to secure financial support through the LVG mechanism through the GEF SGP to enhance interventions related to the project focus area.
Women and Youth	These groups are generally under-represented in the management structure and decision making at the community level; however, they often play a significant role in ensuring the sustainable use of a community?s resources.	Women and youth will participate in the project implementation at community demonstration sites as well as throughout capacity building, awareness, and training programs. The project will seek to ensure interventions are gender/youth inclusive and sensitive, striving for representation of both vulnerable groups in decision-making, management, restoration, and capacity-building interventions. Women and youth will benefit from training and capacity-building interventions as well as being provided with an opportunity to secure financial support through the LVG mechanism through the GEF SGP to enhance interventions related to the project focus area.

In addition, provide a summary on how stakeholders will be consulted in project execution, the means and timing of engagement, how information will be disseminated,

and an explanation of any resource requirements throughout the project/program cycle to ensure proper and meaningful stakeholder engagement

The project included a wide range of consultations during the PPG. Initial stakeholder analysis during the PIF stage was followed up with consultation during the PPG.

The project will develop a Communication and Knowledge Management Plan in the early part of project implementation. The objective of this plan is to: (a) to reach out to the project?s main stakeholders, including in particular local communities to inform them about the project and the expectation of their basic roles and responsibilities; (b) to take advantage of their experience and skills; and (c) to secure and safeguard their active participation in different project activities to reduce obstacles in its implementation and in its sustainability post-completion. The approach is based on the principles of fairness and transparency in selection of relevant stakeholders and, through consultation, engagement and empowerment, ensure: better coordination between them from planning to monitoring and assessment of project interventions; access to relevant information and results; accountability; application of grievance redress mechanism if necessary; and sustainability of project interventions after its completion.

Identification, Roles and Responsibilities of Stakeholders

Stakeholders are identified in Annex 8 of UNDP Project Document, along with their potential roles and responsibilities. The Communication and Knowledge Management Plan will identify goals and guiding principles, target audiences, community needs, and tools and key messages. The following initiatives below will be taken to ensure participation of stakeholders in project activities.

Project inception workshop

Project stakeholders will participate in the multi-stakeholder inception workshop within three months of the start of the project. The purpose of this workshop will be to create awareness amongst stakeholders of the objectives of the project and to define their individual roles and responsibilities in project planning, implementation and monitoring. The workshop will be the first step in the process to build partnership with the range of project stakeholders and ensure that they have ownership of the project. It will also establish a basis for further consultation as project implementation commences. The inception workshop will address a number of key issues including: assisting all partners to fully understand and take ownership of the project; detail the roles, support services and complementary responsibilities of project partners in terms of implementation of sustainable wetland planning and management; and discussion of the roles, functions, and responsibilities within the project structure, including reporting and communication lines, monitoring and conflict resolution mechanisms.

Awareness and Engagement Strategy and Action Plan

This Plan will facilitate improved awareness and engagement of stakeholders (in particular local communities) of the project and its contents; and it includes details on best practices to use with particular stakeholder groups. The project will regularly review and update the Plan to ensure that all stakeholders are informed on an ongoing basis about the project?s objectives, activities, progress, and opportunities for involvement. The project will develop and maintain public pages and other communication means (Output 4.2) for sharing and disseminating information on biodiversity and ecosystem conservation, sustainable land and marine resources practices, good agricultural, IAS prevention and management etc. Activities in the Communication and Knowledge Management Strategy to engage stakeholders and stakeholder groups include:

? **Quarterly meetings with key stakeholders.** On a quarterly basis, the Project Board will hold meetings that involve key stakeholders to discuss achievements, challenges faced, corrective steps taken and future corrective actions needed for the implementation of planned activities. Results-based management and reporting will be informed by stakeholder inputs during such meetings.

? **Sharing progress reports and work-plans.** Copies of annual and quarterly progress reports and work plans will be circulated to stakeholders to inform them about project planning, implementation and outcomes, as well as through public forums, including web-based.

? **Participatory approach for involving local communities.** Such an approach will be adopted to facilitate the participation of local communities, either as a group or through their community organizations/groups, including men?s, women?s, and youth groups in the planning and implementation of the project activities. To ensure participation of local communities, the project will develop Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with local communities before implementing key project activities.

? **Stakeholder consultation and participation in project implementation.** The national awareness and engagement plan will be developed and implemented immediately and reviewed at quarterly meetings with stakeholders to assess its effectiveness.

Select what role civil society will play in the project:

Consulted only;

Member of Advisory Body; Contractor; Yes

Co-financier;

Member of project steering committee or equivalent decision-making body; Yes

Executor or co-executor;

Other (Please explain) Yes

Local communities and their institutions (CFMA and CMMA committees), provincial entities, NGOs and CSOs and private sector.

3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Provide the gender analysis or equivalent socio-economic assesment.

In the Solomon Islands, particularly in the rural areas, where the project sites are located, women have limited participation in both informal and formal businesses despite the fact that they are actively engaged in the economy through subsistence production and in-kind and on-farm work***[1]***. Barriers to women?s participation in small businesses include time constraints due to reproductive and caregiving responsibilities, subsistence food production and community expectations that women will provide free labour to prepare and serve food at community and church events. Additionally, women?s lower levels of education and lack of literacy make it more difficult for them to identify and respond to opportunities and understand requirements of formalized business development***[2]***. Geographic isolation, poor financial services, weak transportation and telecommunication networks and lack of knowledge on quality assurance and marketing are all barriers to women?s engagement in employment. Financial inclusion programs and savings clubs are working to increase women?s financial literacy and opportunities to save and learn basic business skills. However, power differentials within households and systems of traditional obligation often make it difficult. Solomon Islanders use ferries, small private boats, a nationally-owned airlines and roads to travel around the country. Transportation costs are generally high relative to incomes. This limits mobility, especially for rural women who have few income generation opportunities. Service delivery and the quality and safety of services are negatively impacted by isolation of rural communities and lack of infrastructure.

A range of variables shape gender relations in Solomon Islands and influence rural women?s experiences of life. Traditional male-dominated systems of governance combined with patriarchal colonial assumptions about women?s roles in the family and in development have historically disadvantaged women. Heavy workloads and high rates of violence against women and girls significantly constrain both rural and urban women from exercising their rights to participate equally in the social, economic, and political spheres. To address, the gender disparity, the Government has made legislative and policy commitments to promote gender equality. A number of local and international civil society and faith-based organizations also support this work through programs aimed at equitable engagement of women and men in natural resource management, economic development and social change. Local initiatives in the country that address gender activities are usually capacity building, promotion of sustainable livelihood, healthy lifestyle, resource management and upholding of culture and traditions.

Gender and Social inclusion considerations have been integrated into the project design (under Output 4.1) following the development of the Gender Analysis and Mainstreaming Action Plan (Annex 11). As the project entails a multi-stakeholder approach in dealing with landscape and seascape planning, IAS control and management and address of land degradation, integration of gender concerns is critical to ensure equity and participation of both men and women. Rather than focus only on gender alone, the project adopts an approach that does not simply focus on women, but rather on overall inclusivity and multiple vulnerable populations. The R2R planning approach may have significant long-term impacts on both gender and social groups, and thus the Gender Analysis and Mainstreaming Action Plan includes specific actions for applying a gender and socially inclusive lens to every decision, expanding representation, filling in gender and social-based research gaps, and investing in approaches to gather and share information among more groups. It is the intent of this project for it to become a model for improving gender and social mainstreaming into government and planning processes. Gender mainstreaming in the project will be addressed (refer Annex 11 of UNDP Project Document) through the following actions:

? Reducing the burden of work on women and improving their livelihood opportunities through improved access to resources and services.

? Ensuring gender equality in opportunities for education, skill building, training and capacity building.

? Promoting the voice, participation and empowerment of women, and reducing opportunities for elite misuse of benefits and leaders? sole decision making

? Ensuring that project materials, including meeting agendas, reporting templates, communications materials, and all written policies include gender and social mainstreaming;

? Creating and requiring minimum standards for community planning teams, including representation from multiple gender and social groups and/or tasking of planning team members to speak for vulnerable peoples;

? Capacity building and training for project staff and planning team facilitators to include the input of multiple groups into resulting plans;

? Investing in staff to enable adequate connections with multiple groups. Instead of general community meetings, meetings with (i) women?s groups; (ii) men?s groups; (iii) youth groups; and (iv) individuals with access to or influence over vulnerable people (e.g., landowners or village leaders);

? Applying a gender and socially inclusive lens to every meeting, report, plan, and activity;

? Diversifying sustainable livelihood opportunities, specifically for women and youth

? Implementing the Communications and KM plan, including holding multiple, targeted meetings by disaggregated groups;

? Making better use of oral/audio content, with less emphasis on writing to better communicate with women and youth; and

Incorporating gender and socially sensitive indicators and collect gender-disaggregated data for monitoring and evaluating project results.

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[1] ibid

[2] Ibid n3

Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment?

Yes
Closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources; Yes

Improving women's participation and decision making Yes

Generating socio-economic benefits or services or women Yes

Does the project?s results framework or logical framework include gender-sensitive indicators?

Yes
4. Private sector engagement

Elaborate on the private sector's engagement in the project, if any.

Since the private sector are also potential sources of IAS introductions, Component 2, in particular the implementation of NISSAP and promotion of biosecurity measures will target awareness and capacity building for this sector, including promotion of voluntary compliance and uptake of strengthened biosecurity protocols, and as contributors to biosecurity revenue through fees and charges. As the project will focus on a land/seascape-scale approach in the demonstration target areas and the focus on green livelihoods and a nature-based economy for engaging communities in actions to conserve biodiversity and manage IAS, the project will require a strong focus on engagement with the private sector. This was discussed with stakeholders during project formulation at the PPG stage. In particular, the private sector entities including agrobusiness, tourism operators and businesses and fisher merchants will participate in project implementation to enable opportunities for promotion of blue/green livelihoods and management IAS threats as well as provide technical support, business links and market facilities to improve on livelihood and small community-based enterprises.

There is good potential to promote private sector partnerships for the agriculture, fisheries and livestock sector through engagement between local producers, agricultural cooperatives and retailers (e.g. Island Enterprises Ltd and market vendors established under the Markets for Change Programme implemented by UNWOMEN (see above)) to build stronger markets for local, healthy foods from well-

managed ecosystems. Similarly, post-COVID, opportunities should re-emerge to engage the tourism sector and resorts for establishing financial mechanisms to support environmental improvements (e.g. with existing operators such as SolTuna, Bilikiki Cruises, Dive Solomons, local eco-resorts), for example through the establishment of small rolling funds, managed by those enterprises. There may also be opportunities to work with forestry companies since the Environment Act (through the EIA regulation) requires almost 5% of their operational cost to be budgeted towards environmental compliances and implementation, before issuing of licenses. Partnership arrangements and co-financing commitments will be finalized during the PPG stage, and UNDP due diligence processes conducted on potential private sector partnerships.

5. Risks to Achieving Project Objectives

Elaborate on indicated risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, the proposed measures that address these risks at the time of project implementation.(table format acceptable):

Risks will be monitored by the PMU with oversight from UNDP CO. Since the risks are not directly related to achievement of results, the risks innate to the co-financing relates largely to availability of staff time, office space and utilities and in terms of the ?Parallel Financing? these are existing commitments from international development agencies or NGOs that have limited risks and likely will not affect the implementation of the project. The key project risks, including social and environmental risks and measures for management and mitigation of these risks are presented in Table 4 below:

Table 4: Risk Matrix

Risk	Rating	Mitigation Strategy
General Risks		
Competing mandates and poor coordination between government agencies/line ministries and provincial authorities might interfere with the effective implementation of project activities	Moderate	Coordination between government agencies will be strengthened through high level coordination arrangements established under the auspices of the Prime Minister?s Office to ensure effective coordination, delegation of responsibilities, reporting and monitoring
Limited financial management capacity within the Implementing Partner may constraint effective and timely implementation of project activities	High	While the Implementing Partner will be overall responsible for planning, management, monitoring and evaluations, management of risks, procurement and delivery of project outcomes, given the IP?s limited financial management capacity, this risk will be managed through direct payments by UNDP that would be made in consultation with the IP
Delays in project implementation in pilot landscapes due to limited staff and conflicting priorities	Moderate	Clear roles and responsibilities established for IP and RPs, establishment of coordination structure under the Prime Minister?s Office to facilitate coordination and delivery of activities; recruitment of Provincial Coordinators, Community Liaison Associates and NGOs to support of the activities
Political support for legal, governance and institutional framework for detection, control of IAS and sustainable development might be limited	Moderate	Improved coordination mechanism across sectoral agencies and between national and provincial entities (located at Prime Minister?s Office), establishment of foundation for LDN and improved information management systems, etc.
The developed capacities of governmental (particularly agencies that would be responsible for biosecurity) and supporting collaboration, coordination and technologies are sufficient to create a viable and effective means to prevent IAS entry into the country and transmission across islands	Moderate	In line with the above, there is an increasing realization that there is a need for a national strategy for management of IAS in the country, strengthen biosecurity measures at ports of entry and across islands and improved capacity to respond to emergency IAS intrusions). To support this, a critical aspect of the project is to ensure that there is a national strategy for IAS prevention and management (NISSAP), strengthened EDRRs and ERPs in place and national capacity for ensuring measures are in place to manage IAS.

Limited capacities of local stakeholders, including fishers, farmers, graziers and other natural resource dependents ensure sustainable and appropriate use and management of natural resources that results in reduction of threat to endemic species and ecosystems	Moderate	The project will benefit from best practices of landscape/seascape planning and the testing of innovative approaches for community management of forest, coastal and marine areas under local community governance mechanisms. These approaches will be innovative and build on existing traditional practices as well as best practices available from other parts of the country or regionally. The support for improved blue/green livelihood measures will build adequate incentives to enhance local community participation in ensuring conservation outcomes. The lessons learned including the feedback on landscape/seascape planning will be channeled back into the collective knowledge base and will be used in other areas in the country.
Limited awareness and knowledge might result in limited political support for biodiversity and ecosystem conservation and management within the country	Moderate	Awareness and knowledge management activities will aim to promote a better understanding and acceptance of supporting natural resource management and prevention and management of IAS.
Instability in the economic and political global environment might impact on co-financing, government priority shift away from conservation goals	Moderate	This impact would be addressed to an adaptive management approach to adjust and revise project implementation activities to take global concerns, including climate and Covid manifested impacts

The overall feasibility and likelihood of the long-term sustainability of the project might be constrained by the varied activities leading to the fragmentation of resources and impacts	Moderate	The design of project activities was made following an extensive review (and consultation) of institutional capacity, resources and skills to determine realistic targets and activities for project investment. On the basis of this, project design entailed (i) selection and focus of demonstration activities to ensure impacts and benefits to communities; (ii) planning at site level will be made in consultation with local communities and other stakeholders to ensure that these are meaningful and manageable within the community capacity; (iii) planning and implementation of on-the-ground activities to be made through existing community organizations (CMMAs, CMFAs and other institutions) rather than create new institutions; (iv) planning and implementation will be undertaken in consonance with efforts at enhancing community capacity and skills through master trainers, with training materials, demonstration and extension provided to enable uptake, with the support of the provincial level project team and in cooperation with local agricultural, fisheries and forestry staff; (v) enhanced coordination along key line agencies (MEMCD, MAL and the PMU team) to ensure that activities in the 5 sites are planned and implemented taking into consideration the human, time and financial resources at the disposal of each site); (vi) ensure that activities and expectations were realistic given the capacity and institutional structures within the country; (vii) building on the work already done by NGOs in some of the field sites to ensure that efforts are directed at investments that are cost-effective, likely to succeed and provide direct economic benefits to local communities as well as improve coordination with NGOs working in a particular site to avoid overlap, enhance collaboration and build on what has already been done; (viii) regular monitoring investments on the ground to enable adaptive management, as and when necessary; etc. The project design includes significant level of technical oversight, extensive training and extension services to build capacity within the country.
Social and Environmental Risks[1]		

The introduction of new natural resource management practices, enforcement controls and/or strengthened biosecurity protocols/clearances in the demonstration land/seascapes could affect traditional rights or access to some land and resources, potentially increasing conflict between communities and may likely affecting more marginalized or vulnerable groups including indigenous peoples.	Moderate	The process of consulting with communities in the demonstration land/seascapes began at PIF stage through discussions with relevant NGOs, CSOs and provincial authorities working in the areas, and was further strengthened through meaningful consultation at the project?s potential demonstration sites during the design/PPG phase. Detailed consultations with full effective and meaningful participation of the indigenous peoples concerned have been made during the PPG phase by experts hired specifically to ensure culturally sensitive approaches to project design (see Stakeholder Engagement Plan in Annex 8 of the UNDP Project Document). Through the overarching ESMF and IPPF, these consultations will continue iteratively throughout implementation and closure of the project. Through this process, agreement (and, where required, free prior and informed consent (FPIC)) will be sought from communities on any project activities that may affect their rights and interests, lands or resources. The risk of not obtaining FPIC is included in Risk 4. All interested parties will be adequately consulted upon Project inception and during its implementation (via FPIC in the case of indigenous communities) regarding Project activities. If there is no consent of potentially affected communities in the implementation of activities that may result in restricted access to certain natural resources, these will not be implemented. There is no standard for obtaining FPIC in the Solomon Islands, nor is there any national association of indigenous people. The Solomon Islands is also not a signatory to UNDRIP. Therefore, the PPG team has worked with the tribal chiefs and Councils of Chiefs already formed in Isabel and Choiseul provinces (Tubi Forest Landscape), and with existing community groups formed for natural resource management (e.g., Lauru Land Conference of Tribal Community) to design and agree the process in each land/seascape for obtaining FPIC. Initial consent and willingness to engaged/participate in the project has been achieved (See Consent letters). However, FPIC will need to be established/achieved with all communities participating in the project, once the exact demonstration sites are finalized and before implementation begins. The Stakeholder Engagement Plan prepared during the PPG (Annex 8 of the UNDP Project Document) further defines measures to ensure that the project is well informed by nominated community

Women and other marginalized groups could face discrimination or lack voice within decisions, access to benefits and resources surrounding project design and implementation (given patriarchal practices in traditional communities) .	Moderate	A detailed assessment of specific local challenges and inequalities for women and other marginalized groups has been undertaken as part of the project preparatory work (See UNDP Project Document Annex 11) . The scope of the gender analysis/assessment sought to determine the roles of women, identify inequalities or vulnerabilities, cultural, social, religious, and other constraints on women?s potential participation and any rights issues within the spatial boundaries of the project?s demonstration sites and sphere of influence. Both women and men will be provided with equal access to advice and opportunities, including in project governance mechanisms and through any project-related benefits. Mechanisms were designed and established to encourage and enable people from all marginalized groups to take part in project design (via inclusive consultation proceedings) and implementation. - The goal for gender-rights development within the project will be Gen 2, following the UN Markers, meaning that the project will significantly promote gender equality.

The introduction of incentives, project related employment and support for sustainable land management or green livelihoods could cause conflict if not implemented carefully and managed equitably or may support employment that fails to comply with national and international labour standards	Moderate	In the full project design document, financial incentive mechanisms and diversification of livelihoods have been planned so as not to negatively affect existing economic systems. Instead, they have been designed to ensure additional benefits to the community as a whole, with emphasis on empowering and including marginalized groups and individuals. To ensure effective management of any livelihood-related issues that may eventuate during the implementation of the project, a Livelihood Action Plan will be developed in Year 1 of the project?s implementation. It shall seek to determine management measures /actions as well as monitoring indicators for any livelihood-related activities/mitigation measures. As part of the project design process, project management measures have been designed to ensure that any employment developed through the project will follow national and international equal opportunity employment laws, and will adhere to the requirements of UNDP?s SES.

The project may not effectively engage and ensure participation of all stakeholders, including women, indigenous peoples and ethnic minorities, during the project design and the implementation phases. Due to existing inequalities, rights holders may not have the capacity to claim their rights. Initial consultation and meaningful engagement have been undertaken with indigenous peoples across the potential demonstration land/seascapes during the project design phase. Some activities of the project will require continuous FPIC during project implementation. No activities that may affect/impact indigenous peoples shall commence until FPIC has been achieved.	Moderate	As a result of the detailed consultations that have been conducted during the PPG phase, a comprehensive stakeholder engagement plan has been prepared as UNDP Project Document Annex 8 . Given the triggering of Standard 6 (Indigenous Peoples), FPIC procedures have been developed and embedded throughout the consultation plans of the project. The consultations undertaken during the PPG phase included awareness raising with local indigenous communities in the relevant sea/landscapes where project activities may be implemented. Indigenous peoples were informed of their rights and their ability to withhold consent on certain project activities during implementation. FPIC has not been achieved at every intervention site (as some exact areas/sites are not known at the time of project preparation), and so FPIC will be required before any such activities are implemented. A grievance redress mechanism has been designed and incorporated within the project?s ESMF (See Section 7). Monitoring and evaluation processes have been designed to record any complaints or grievances that arise within the project and wider community, with attention being brought to the Project Board. The GRM has been designed to be culturally sensitive and accessible to all stakeholders. Due to the COVID-19 context, related restrictions in the Solomon Islands, and to avoid the risk of transmissions, consultations have needed to be done by local specialists, remotely trained and supported by an international specialist. Through the framework and required activities of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (Annex 8 of the UNDP Project Document), and the IPPF (Annex 10 of the UNDP Project Document), continuous consultation and participation of indigenous people will be sought and monitored throughout project implementation.

Duty bearers may not have the capacity to uphold their duties within the project.	Low	SES-related training and capacity building has been integrated into project design in order to support duty bearers (particularly members of the Project Board, project staff and consultants and government officials) so that they can better understand their responsibilities for human rights. Budgetary considerations to address gender/ safeguards issues have been costed and allocated as necessary in the final project design document, such that technical support and training on gender and safeguards will be provided to the PMU/Board at the start of the project. A monitoring and evaluation process will monitor the development of capacity within the project team and stakeholder groups.

The effects of climate change such as flooding, droughts and storms could impact project areas and activities and vulnerable communities. Climate variability and change will increase frequency and intensity of natural disasters and this can potentially delay or destroy project interventions as well as adversely affect project-affected people?s livelihoods and safety.	Moderate	The development of terrestrial and marine ecosystems/green and blue livelihoods includes the design and implementation of sustainable management measures that will consider climate change criteria. The outputs and targets defined in Components 1 (i.e., ?Enabling framework for safeguarding biodiversity, combatting land degradation and securing nature based-economy?) and Component 3 (i.e., ?Community-based integrated ecosystem management and threat reduction at land/seascape scale?) aim at reinforcing institutional management of biodiversity and ecosystem services conservation through considerations for climate change mitigation and adaptation. Climate change mitigation and adaptation measures have been embedded in the project design through improved natural resources management, green livelihoods, capacity building and awareness. Demonstrations on the ground have been designed to illustrate how integrated natural resources management can be a key tool in addressing climate change. Specific indicators for sustainable management measures were established to underline carbon sequestration by indigenous forests and ecosystems under improved management. Component 3 of the project also includes indicators that were developed to monitor the area of smallholder farms adopting sustainable land management and climate smart agricultural techniques, resulting in avoided degradation of forests, land and coastal ecosystems (UNDP Project Document, Project Results Framework, indicator 16). These indicators will be monitored as described in the UNDP Project Document Section V and VII. Refer Annex 19 of UNDP Project Document for detailed Climate Analysis and Risks

The project could have unintended impacts on valuable natural habitats, globally threatened or endemic species, or production systems if activities are improperly executed, e.g. potential overharvesting of native species, improperly executed IAS control could lead to increased spread/invasion of IAS if biosecurity/ decontamination protocols are not followed, broadscale weed removal could result in bare land and increased erosion risk, poor habitat management could lead to risks to threatened species if habitat needs/requirements not met. *In addition, measures to control IAS including physical removal or the use of chemicals (pesticides or herbicides) may create hazardous waste or cause environmental pollution.*	Substantial	During the PPG phase, Biodiversity, SLM and IAS specialists have been hired to carry out a full assessment of current, and any possibly new, negative environmental impacts arising from the project, particularly relating to the demonstration land/seascapes and to new and sustainable livelihood and SLM options and IAS control methods. The analysis also considers existing environmental guidelines and their application as well as knowledge of standard operating procedures and capacity to follow them. The project design has sought to ensure that existing threats to biodiversity and/or land degradation are addressed and that no new threats are caused by project activities. Under demonstration activities in Component 3, the project document specifically states that no non-native species will be used for SLM, re-forestation or for livelihoods development. Any proposed IAS control/removal efforts (including under co-financing) will take place under clear SOPs and management plans, with consideration of potential environmental and social impacts. The project will ensure that appropriate protocols are developed and deployed for those working in locations that require biosecurity, with subsequent site-specific OHS plans being required where a risk to worker safety exists. If the use of chemicals is required at any point for IAS control measures, all relevant activities involving pesticide application will require a site-specific Pesticide Management Plan, developed in accordance with good international practice. The project will avoid supporting the use, manufacture and trade of chemicals subject to international bans, restrictions or phase-outs The plans will be developed in accordance with good international practice, and will avoid supporting the manufacture, trade, and use of chemicals and hazardous materials subject to international bans, restrictions or phase-outs due to their high toxicity to living organisms, environmental persistence, or potential for bioaccumulation, unless for acceptable purposes as defined by the conventions or protocols (e.g. theMinamata Convention,Basel Convention,Rotterdam Convention,Stockholm Convention). Previous breaches in biosecurity have, and will continue to be, examined in order to learn lessons in the interests of nature conservation and ensure that best practice protocols for biosecurity and IAS management are used. Measures such as management plans, monitoring and compliance with regulations

The project could contribute to cumulative environmental or social impacts in the area through unintended negative consequences from policy or legislative changes ?upstream?.	Moderate	During the PPG phase, Biodiversity, SLM and IAS specialists have been hired to carry out a full assessment of the baseline and any possible new negative environmental or social impacts that could arise from upstream policy or legislative changes introduced by the project. This included specific consideration for potential cumulative impacts. On-going monitoring of potential cumulative impacts has been included within the monitoring requirements of this ESMF. One aspect of the project that could result in the potential for cumulative impacts that could arise from upstream policy is Component 1. Mainstreaming of biodiversity into different sectors under project Output 1.1 will follow the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) approach. The project document specifically states that SESA will be applied to all new policies and legislation/regulations/ordinances (developed as part of this project) prior to approval by Government and this has been built into detailed project design.
Measures to control invasive alien species may be hazardous for the project team, officials and pose potential risks to community health, could exacerbate risks of erosion and landslides (posing safety risks to communities), and may not comply with best practice health and safety standards.	Moderate	The ESMF outlines requirements for future risk screening/assessment that must be in place during project implementation. This includes stipulations for instances where Health and Safety Plans must be in place. During project design it has been determined that new guidelines for IAS management and control will be developed at the start of the project implementation. In addition, safety equipment will be provided (e.g., PPE) and staff and local communities will be trained around dangers of managing IAS and steps to manage the associated risks. Regular safety checks have been built into the project design, with responsible parties being specified for overseeing H&S aspects of the project?s implementation.

The project may result in interventions in the demonstration land/seascapes that would potentially adversely impact sites, structures, or objects with historical, cultural, artistic, traditional or religious values or intangible forms of culture (e.g., knowledge, innovations, practices).	Moderate	During initial consultation with local stakeholders, a preliminary assessment of risks to cultural heritage was undertaken. The primary project component of concern for cultural heritage (both tangible and intangible) risks is Component 3. Guidelines for safeguarding cultural heritage will be developed at the start of the project and staff, consultants and government officers will be trained about risks to cultural heritage. Procedures and protocols for handling chance finds will be coordinated with the national cultural heritage authority, with the engagement of local people.
Project or UNDP staff/consultants travelling to Honiara and demonstration land/seascapes could increase risk of COVID-19 spread if pandemic is prolonged or if a different pandemic emerges during the project?s lifetime.	Moderate	Given the current restrictions and pandemic-related travel requirements, PPG activities have been undertaken by national consultants, supported remotely by international specialists and external UNDP staff (no international staff have travelled to the Solomon Islands at the time of the PPG). The potential for inter-island transmission has been reduced by the project including a high degree of devolution of implementation responsibility to local level (i.e., working through provincial staff and local coordinators). Any future international travel to project sites, during project implementation, will need to follow internationally recognized biosecurity standards. Refer Annex 18 of UNDP Project Document for Covid analysis and risks
Due diligence has not yet been completed to ensure there are no enhanced safeguards risks from working with and private sector companies / co-financers with whom the project may cooperate to support biodiversity and LDN activities.	Moderate	Partnership agreements will be established with each private sector partner prior to the start of any partnership working. Such agreements will be fully aligned with UNDPs private sector partnerships policy including any conditions according to the findings of UNDP Private Sector Risk Assessment Tool.

Certain areas of the Solomon Islands are contaminated with UXO left-over from the Second World War. UXO could potentially harm or kill project workers and/or stakeholders within the project?s demonstration sites.	Moderate	While the full mapping and documentation of UXO within the Solomon Islands is not complete, injuries and fatalities remain relatively rare in the proposed demonstration sites of the project. The majority of recent injuries and fatalities relating to UXO in the Solomon Islands has been from the direct detonation, handling and/or storage of UXO and other remnants of war. During project implementation, the project team shall inform the relevant national authorities and/or NGOs or any activities that are in likely contaminated areas. In such instances, project staff shall be trained on the identification and safety measures for any activity within said areas.

[1] Social and Environmental Risks are rated as per the SESP: low, moderate, substantial or high.

Potential Social and Environmental Impacts:

During project development, the project was reviewed using UNDP?s social and environmental screening procedure (SESP). The analysis identified a range of potential social and environmental impacts associated with the project activities. The SESP report (Annex 5) details the specific environmental and social risks that apply. The significance of each risk, based on its probability of occurrence and extent of impact, has been estimated as being Low, Moderate, Substantial or High. Where a risk is identified and assessed as being of Moderate, Substantial or High risk, it triggers the relevant standard or principle.

The UNDP?s Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) has resulted in an overall ?substantial? risk rating for the project. According to the 2019 SESP guidelines, a project is considered to have ?substantial? social and environmental risk when it *?includes activities with potential adverse social and environmental risks and impacts that are more varied or complex than those of Moderate Risk projects but remain limited in scale and are of lesser magnitude than those of High-Risk projects (e.g., reversible, predictable, smaller footprint, less risk of cumulative impacts)?.*

The Project?s design has integrated many of the requirements triggered by the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (SES) in order to ensure that any potentially adverse effects can be avoided or mitigated during implementation, and that the anticipated positive social and environmental outcomes are

achieved. Nevertheless, there are some specific project activities and locations that will not be fully defined until the Project is initiated. Therefore, the project?s ESMF (Annex 9) establishes a framework that guides the screening and categorization, level of impact assessment, required institutional arrangements, and processes to be followed for components or activities of the project that will be further specified during project implementation.

A summary of the risk significance under each SES principle and standard, and the project-level safeguard standards triggered by the relevant project interventions/activities, are shown in Table 5 below.

Table 5: Summary of safeguard standards triggered based on screening conducted during project preparation

Overarching Principle / Project-level Standard	Rating
Principle: Human Rights	? **Moderate**
Principle: Gender Equality and Women?s Empowerment	? **Moderate**
Principle: Sustainability and Resilience	? **Moderate**
Principle: Accountability	? **Moderate**
Standard 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management	? **Substantial**
Standard 2: Climate Change and Disaster Risks	? **Moderate**
Standard 3: Community Health, Safety and Security	? **Substantial**

Standard 4: Cultural Heritage	**? Moderate**
Standard 5: Displacement and Resettlement	**? Moderate**
Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples	**? Moderate**
Standard 7: Labor and Working Conditions	**? Moderate**
Standard 8: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency	**? Substantial**
Number of risks in each risk rating category	
High	0
Substantial	1
Moderate	11
Low	1
Total number of project risks	13
Overall Project Risk Categorization	**Substantial**
Number of safeguard standards triggered	**12**

As a consequence of the initial project SES categorisation, an ESMF was developed (Annex 9) as part of project preparation. The ESMF identifies the steps required for detailed assessment of the project?s potential social and environmental risks, and for preparing and approving the required management plans for avoiding, and where avoidance is not possible, reducing, mitigating and managing identified adverse impacts. It also sets out the additional safeguards measures that apply to the project during the inception phase, including but not limited to:

i. conducting a **Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA)** of impacts associated with ?upstream? aspects of the project (primarily Output 1.1) involving planning support, policy advice and reform, and/or capacity building;

ii. screening of project activities and specific interventions/outputs not yet fully specified, using the SESP, to ensure that associated impacts are adequately managed;

iii. development of an **Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP);**

iv. further development of the Indigenous Peoples Planning framework (IPPF) into an **Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP)** with measures for Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), and developed through additional stakeholder consultation with affected communities; and,

v. Livelihood?s assessment to assess the project?s impact on the socio-economic and livelihoods conditions of project affected peoples at the demonstration sites as outlined in Component 3 (to be incorporated into the **Livelihood Action Plan** to be developed in Year 1).

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[1] Social and Environmental Risks are rated as per the SESP: low, moderate, substantial or high.

6. Institutional Arrangement and Coordination

Describe the institutional arrangement for project implementation. Elaborate on the planned coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives.

Implementing Partner: The Implementing Partner for this project is the Ministry of Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM)

The Implementing Partner is responsible for executing this project. Specific tasks include:

•Project planning, coordination, management, monitoring, evaluation and reporting. This includes providing all required information and data necessary for timely, comprehensive and evidence-based project reporting, including results and financial data, as necessary. The Implementing Partner will strive to ensure project-level M&E is undertaken by national institutes and is aligned with national systems so that the data used and generated by the project supports national systems.
•Overseeing the management of project risks as included in this project document and new risks that may emerge during project implementation.
•Procurement of goods and services, including human resources.
•Financial management, including overseeing financial expenditures against project budgets.
•Approving and signing the multiyear workplan.
•Approving and signing the combined delivery report at the end of the year; and,
•Signing the financial report or the funding authorization and certificate of expenditures.

Responsible Parties: The Responsible Partners for the project would be the following:

? Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAL)

? Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources (MFMR)

? Ministry of Forest and Research (MOFR)

? Solomon Islands Port Authority

? Solomon Islands Maritime Authority

? Solomon Islands Airport Corporation

Specific tasks of the responsible parties include :

? MAL will provide support in technical advice, training, and support for towards the sustainable land management and Land degradation neutrality aspects of the project; as will support the IP in implementing the invasive alien species components of the project;

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? MOFR will support the IP in implementing the tubi reserve aspects of the project activities in the specified landscape demos in Choiseul and Isabel Provinces;

? Solomon Islands Port Authrority, Solomon Islands Maritime Authority and Solomon Islands Airport Corporate will support the IP in the implementation of related IAS activities, particularly at two national ports, and national airport to control risks related to IAS.

Project stakeholders and target groups: The key beneficiaries, namely the local resource dependents in the 12 landscape/seascape sites that will be directly involved through their respective community institutions in all aspects of the project, namely in the integrated landscape/seascape planning process, in the planning and management of conservation, habitat restoration, sustainable land and marine resource use, livelihood and small-scale enterprise development activities, as well as overseeing and supporting the monitoring of the condition of the landscape/seascape through their individual CFMA, CMMA and SLM plans. The project will invest in technical and capacity development support to strengthen existing CFMA, CMMA and other community institutions, support training and capacity development of these institutions, provide extension support in relation to income generation, agriculture, fisheries and other livelihood improvement activities.

UNDP: UNDP is accountable to the GEF for the implementation of this project. This includes overseeing project execution undertaken by the Implementing Partner to ensure that the project is being carried out in accordance with UNDP and GEF policies and procedures and the standards and provisions outlined in the Delegation of Authority (DOA) letter for this project. The UNDP GEF Executive Coordinator, in consultation with UNDP Bureaus and the Implementing Partner, retains the right to revoke the project DOA, suspend or cancel this GEF project. UNDP is responsible for the Project Assurance function in the project governance structure and presents to the Project Board and attends Project Board meetings as a non-voting member. The second line of defense will include the Regional Bureau who oversees the RR and Country Office, compliance at portfolio levell; BPPS NCE RTA oversees technnical quality assurance and GEF compliance, BBPS RTA oversees RTA function; and UNDP GEF Executive Coordinator and Regional Bureau Deputy Director can revoke DOA/ cancel/suspend project or provide enhanced oversight. The Implementing Partner will be overally responsible for all procurement and management of consultants and suppliers, but given its limited financial management capacity as assessed through the HACT, UNDP will make direct payments to consultants and suppliers in consultation with the IP.

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Implementing Partner: The Implementing Partner for this project is the Ministry of Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM)

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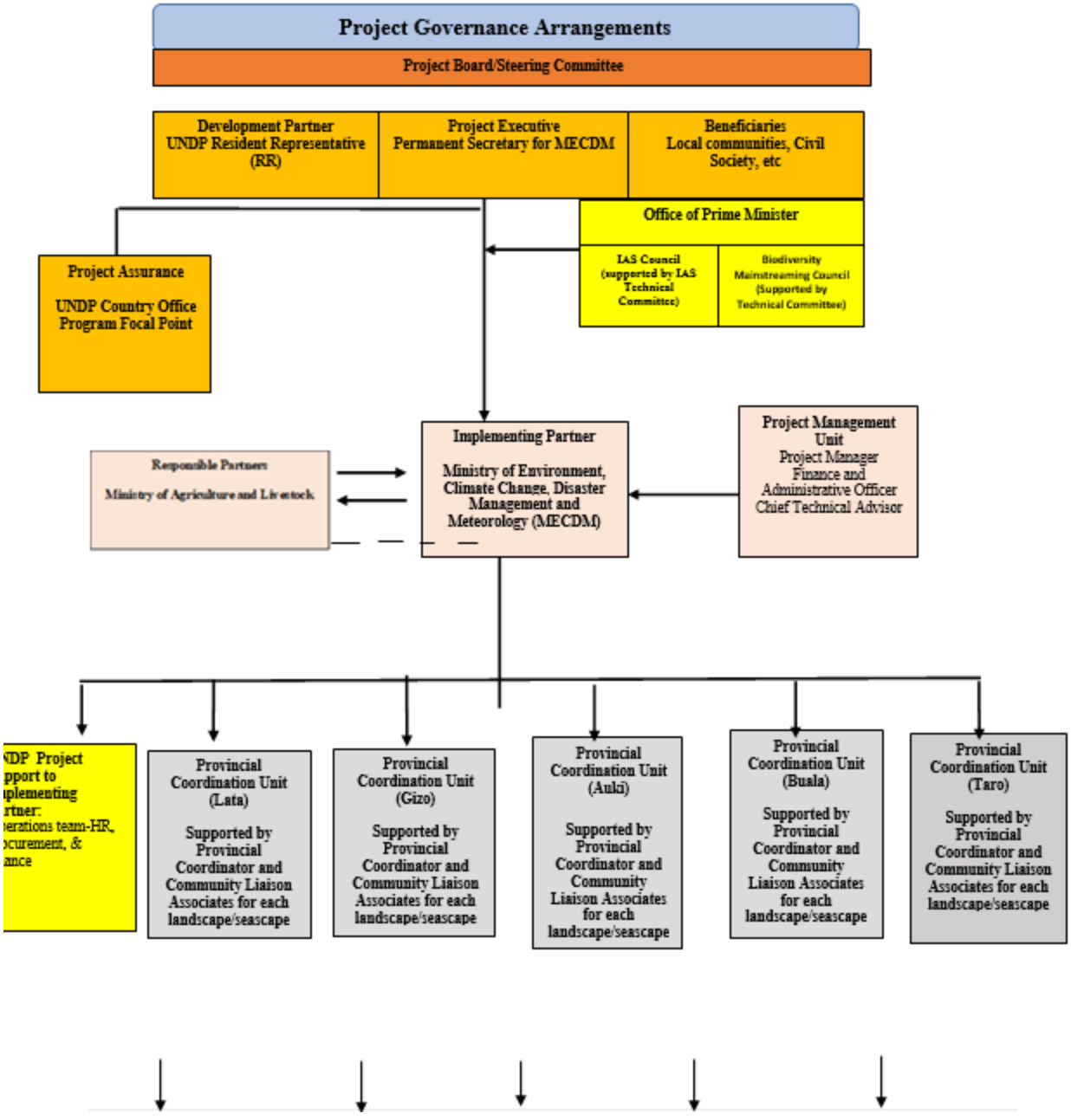
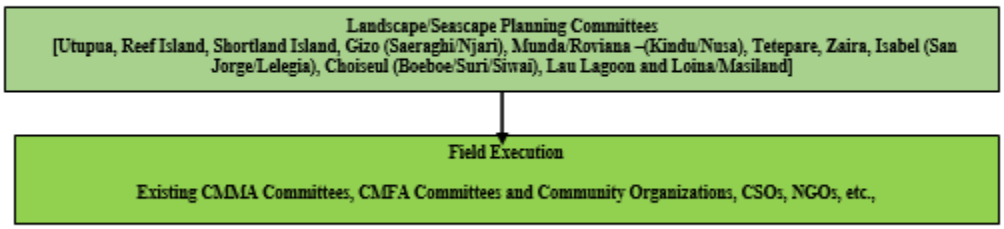
Project governance structure:





160 First line of defense: UNDP oversight of project support to IP cannot be UNDP staff providing project assurance or providing programmatic oversight support to the RR.

161 Second line of Defense:

? Regional Bureau oversees RR and Country Office compliance at Portfolio level;

? BPPS NCE RTA overseas technical quality assurance, and GEF compliance. BBPS NCE PTA overseas RTA functions.

? UNDP NCE Executive Coordinator and Regional Bureau Deputy Director can revoke DOA/cancel/suspend project or provide enhanced oversight.

162 The UNDP Resident Representative assumes full responsibility and accountability for oversight and quality assurance of this Project and ensures its timely implementation in compliance with the GEF-specific requirements and UNDP?s Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP), its Financial Regulations and Rules and Internal Control Framework. A representative of the UNDP Country Office will assume the assurance role and will present assurance findings to the Project Board, and therefore attends Project Board meetings as a non-voting member.

163 **UNDP project support***:* The Implementing Partner and GEF OFP have requested UNDP to provide support services in the amount of *USD$ 70,717* for the full duration of the project, and the GEF has agreed for UNDP to provide such execution support services [and for the cost of these services to be charged to the project budget] The execution support services ? whether financed from the project budget or other sources - have been set out in detail and agreed between UNDP Country Office and the Implementing Partner in a Letter of Agreement (LOA). This LOA is attached to this Project Document. Execution support is sought to address capacity gaps interms of financial and asset management as identified in the latest HACT and PCAT assessments.

164 To ensure the strict independence required by the GEF and in accordance with the UNDP Internal Control Framework, these execution services will be delivered independent from the GEF-specific oversight and quality assurance services.

Section 3: Segregation of duties and firewalls vis-?-vis UNDP representation on the project board:

165 As noted in the Minimum Fiduciary Standards for GEF Partner Agencies, in cases where a GEF Partner Agency (i.e. UNDP) carries out both implementation oversight and execution of a project, the GEF Partner Agency (i.e. UNDP) must separate its project implementation oversight and execution duties, and describe in the relevant project document a: 1) Satisfactory institutional arrangement for the separation of implementation oversight and executing functions in different departments of the GEF Partner Agency; and 2) Clear lines of responsibility, reporting and accountability within the GEF Partner Agency between the project implementation oversight and execution functions.

166 In this case, UNDP?s implementation oversight role in the project ? as represented in the project board and via the project assurance function ? is performed by UNDP Resident Representative and may be delegated to Country Manager/Deputy Resident Representative. UNDP?s execution support role in the project (as requested by the implementing partner and approved by the GEF) is performed by UNDP Operations -finance, procurement, and human resources, who will report to UNDP Operations Manager.

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Section 4: Roles and Responsiblities of the Project Organization Strucutre:

a) Project Board: All UNDP projects must be governed by a multi-stakeholder board or committee established to review performance based on monitoring and evaluation, and implementation issues to ensure quality delivery of results. The Project Board (also called the Project Steering Committee) is the most senior, dedicated oversight body for a project. The project Board will be Chaired by the Permanent Secretary of MECDM and include senior representatives from MAL, MFMR, MOFR, MOFT and UNDP

The two main (mandatory) roles of the project board are as follows:

1) **High-level oversight of the execution of the project by the Implementing Partner** (as explained in the ?Provide Oversight? section of the POPP). This is the primary function of the project board and

includes annual (and as-needed) assessments of any major risks to the project, and decisions/agreements on any management actions or remedial measures to address them effectively. The Project Board reviews evidence of project performance based on monitoring, evaluation and reporting, including progress reports, evaluations, risk logs and the combined delivery report. The Project Board is responsible for taking corrective action as needed to ensure the project achieves the desired results.

2) **Approval of strategic project execution decisions of the Implementing Partner** with a view to assess and manage risks, monitor and ensure the overall achievement of projected results and impacts and ensure long term sustainability of project execution decisions of the Implementing Partner (as explained in the ?Manage Change? section of the POPP).

Requirements to serve on the Project Board: Agree to the Terms of Reference of the Board and the rules on protocols, quorum and minuting.

? Meet annually; at least once.

? Disclose any conflict of interest in performing the functions of a Project Board member and take all measures to avoid any real or perceived conflicts of interest. This disclosure must be documented and kept on record by UNDP.

? Discharge the functions of the Project Board in accordance with UNDP policies and procedures.

? Ensure highest levels of transparency and ensure Project Board meeting minutes are recorded and shared with project stakeholders.

Responsibilities of the Project Board:

? Consensus decision making:

o The project board provides overall guidance and direction to the project, ensuring it remains within any specified constraints, and providing overall oversight of the project implementation.

o Review project performance based on monitoring, evaluation and reporting, including progress reports, risk logs and the combined delivery report;

o The project board is responsible for making management decisions by consensus.

o In order to ensure UNDP?s ultimate accountability, Project Board decisions should be made in accordance with standards that shall ensure management for development results, best value money, fairness, integrity, transparency and effective international competition.

o In case consensus cannot be reached within the Board, the UNDP representative on the board will mediate to find consensus and, if this cannot be found, will take the final decision to ensure project implementation is not unduly delayed.

? Oversee project execution:

o Agree on project manager?s tolerances as required, within the parameters outlined in the project document, and provide direction and advice for exceptional situations when the project manager?s tolerances are exceeded.

o Appraise annual work plans prepared by the Implementing Partner for the Project; review combined delivery reports prior to certification by the implementing partner.

o Address any high-level project issues as raised by the project manager and project assurance;

o Advise on major and minor amendments to the project within the parameters set by UNDP and the donor and refer such proposed major and minor amendments to the UNDP BPPS Nature, Climate and Energy Executive Coordinator (and the GEF, as required by GEF policies);

o Provide high-level direction and recommendations to the project management unit to ensure that the agreed deliverables are produced satisfactorily and according to plans.

o Track and monitor co-financed activities and realisation of co-financing amounts of this project.

o Approve the Inception Report, GEF annual project implementation reports, mid-term review and terminal evaluation reports.

o Ensure commitment of human resources to support project implementation, arbitrating any issues within the project.

? Risk Management:

o Provide guidance on evolving or materialized project risks and agree on possible mitigation and management actions to address specific risks.

o Review and update the project risk register and associated management plans based on the information prepared by the Implementing Partner. This includes risks related that can be directly managed by this project, as well as contextual risks that may affect project delivery or continued UNDP compliance and reputation but are outside of the control of the project. For example, social and environmental risks associated with co-financed activities or activities taking place in the project?s area of influence that have implications for the project.

o Address project-level grievances.

? Coordination:

o Ensure coordination between various donor and government-funded projects and programmes.

o Ensure coordination with various government agencies and their participation in project activities.

Composition of the Project Board: The composition of the Project Board must include individuals assigned to the following three roles:

1. **Project Executive:** This is an individual who represents ownership of the project and chairs (or co-chairs) the Project Board. The Executive usually is the senior national counterpart for nationally implemented projects (typically from the same entity as the Implementing Partner), and it must be UNDP for projects that are direct implementation (DIM). In exceptional cases, two individuals from different entities can co-share this role and/or co-chair the Project Board. If the project executive co-chairs the project board with representatives of another category, it typically does so with a development partner representative. The Project Executive is: Dr. Melchior Mataki ? Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Disaster Management (MECDM)

2. **Beneficiary Representative(s):** Individuals or groups representing the interests of those groups of stakeholders who will ultimately benefit from the project. Their primary function within the board is to ensure the realization of project results from the perspective of project beneficiaries. Often representatives from civil society, industry associations, or other government entities benefiting from the project can fulfil this role. There can be multiple beneficiary representatives in a Project Board. The Beneficiary representative (s) is/are: Local level governments and local community based groups from the landscape/seascape demonstration sites.

3. **Development Partner(s):** Individuals or groups representing the interests of the parties concerned that provide funding, strategic guidance and/or technical expertise to the project. The Development Partner(s) is/are: Deputy Resident Representative who will ensure the policies of UNDP and the GEF are complied with.

b) **Project Assurance:** Project assurance is the responsibility of each project board member; however, UNDP has a distinct assurance role for all UNDP projects in carrying out objective and independent project oversight and monitoring functions. UNDP performs quality assurance and supports the Project Board (and Project Management Unit) by carrying out objective and independent project oversight and monitoring functions, including compliance with the risk management and social and environmental standards of UNDP. The Project Board cannot delegate any of its quality assurance responsibilities to the Project Manager. Project assurance is totally independent of project execution.

c) **Oversight Councils:** Given, the importance of biodiversity mainstreaming and IAS prevention and management, the agreement is to create two high-level Councils in the Prime Minister?s Office, an IAS

Council for overseeing and coordination IAS prevention and management throughout the Solomon Islands and across all sectors (*perse* implementation of a solid NISSAP) and a Biodiversity Mainstreaming Council to improve focus on biodiversity and SLM across sector (with the possible option of converting the existing ECA to the Biodiversity Mainstreaming Council and moving it under the PM?s Office). These two Councils will be approved by government, with defined terms of reference, operational procedures, funding agreements, MOUs signed with participating members and technical working groups to support the Councils.

A designated representative of UNDP playing the project assurance role is expected to attend all board meetings and support board processes as a non-voting representative. It should be noted that while in certain cases UNDP?s project assurance role across the project may encompass activities happening at several levels (e.g. global, regional), at least one UNDP representative playing that function must, as part of their duties, specifically attend board meeting and provide board members with the required documentation required to perform their duties. The UNDP representative playing the main project assurance function is/are: Joanne Alhunu, Team Leader, Resilient Sustainable Development

c) **Project Management ? Execution of the Project:** The Project Manager (PM) (also called project coordinator) is the senior most representative of the Project Management Unit (PMU) and is responsible for the overall day-to-day management of the project on behalf of the Implementing Partner, including the mobilization of all project inputs, supervision over project staff, responsible parties, consultants and sub-contractors. The project manager typically presents key deliverables and documents to the board for their review and approval, including progress reports, annual work plans, adjustments to tolerance levels and risk registers. The PM will devote 30% of his/her time for technical aspects of the project.

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A designated representative of the PMU is expected to attend all board meetings and support board processes as a non-voting representative.

The primary PMU representative attending board meetings is: *(Add name and title)*

Composition of the Project Management Unit: The PMU will comprise of a Project Manager, Project Finance and Administrative Officer. The Project Management unit will be housed within the IP premises in Honiara. An international Technical Advisor will be attached to the PMU to provide technical oversight and implementation support, initially for 9 months each in Years 1 and 2, 4 months each in Years 3,4 and 5; and 3 months in Year 6. The Project Management unit will be housed within the IP premises in Honiara. The PMU will be supported by Provincial Coordinators in each of the 5 Provinces, who will be stationed at Lata, Gizo, Auki, Buala and Taro to faciliate the planning and management of project-related activities in the 12 landscapes/seascapes, who will be supported by part-time Community-based Liaison Associates in each of the 12 landscapes/seascapes to faciliate and coordinate the on-the-ground activities.

The Landscape/Seascape Planning Committees that will provide oversight and coordination support for planning and implementation at the target landscapes/seascapes. Some of the provinces/landscapes-seascapes already have such committees that would be strengthened, and where such committtees do not exists, these will be established. Typically, the Provincial Coordination Committee will include the following: Provincial Secretary (chair of the Committee), representatives from MAF, MECDM, MAL and MAFM; Provincial Planning Officer, Provincial Legal Advisor, Community members from respective landscapes/seascapes; Women representatuve, Youth representative, representatives from Church groups, Representatives from Indigenouse NGOs, etc. The Provincial Project Coordinator will serve as the secretary to the committee

The project activities will be implemented through existing CMMA, CFMA, Community organizations or other village level committees that are already engagement in conservation and sustainable management activities. These existing committees will be supported by the community liaison associates and NGOs that operate in the area, with technical oversight provided by the sector extension staff and project consultants and include representatives of women and youth.

One of the roles and responsibilities of the project management unit is to track and monitor cofinancing for the project.

7. Consistency with National Priorities

Describe the consistency of the project with national strategies and plans or reports and assesments under relevant conventions from below:

NAPAs, NAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCs, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, INDCs, etc.

The project is aligned with the following national and global strategies and plans that link directly to global conventions and related initiatives:

National Development Strategy: The project aligns with the National Development Strategy (NDS) (2016-2035) which is the overarching resource mobilization plan and a gender and poverty mainstreaming instrument. The NDS guides the development of ministerial and provincial plans. The overall framework aims to promote a ?whole of government? approach is envisaged, with collective decision making through effective coordination by cluster groupings. The NDS seeks to grow the economy through creating investment opportunities in manufacturing and industry development such as tourism, agriculture, fisheries, forestry, energy and related sectors in an environmentally sustainable manner. The project particularly supports NDS Objective #4 on ensuring a resilient and environmentally sustainable

development with effective disaster risk management, but in other respects, the project focuses on the following SDGs, namely Goal 5: achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls; 13: to take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts; Goal 14 to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development; and Goal 15 protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan: Solomon Islands became a party to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity through accession in 1995. The project is fully aligned with the Vision of the NBSAP 2015-20 which is ?A unified, vibrant and informed Solomon Island?s society, embodied with an environmental culture, where unique and endemic biodiversity remain part of the natural heritages and cultural identities, and where, ecosystem services continue to prevail, providing for the economic, social, spiritual and intellectual development for its people. In particular it will contribute to the following NBSAP targets:

Target 1: the people of Solomon Islands are aware of the value of biodiversity, and have taken the necessary steps for conserving, sustainable using, and sharing of benefits derived from biodiversity, equitably, within the scope of the NBSAP objective, and other
concurrent policy objectives;

Target 2: existing environmental laws, regulations, policies, management plans and action plans have been effectively implemented, with special attention towards the effective implementation of those provisions for supporting of incentives and subsidies for biodiversity managements.

Target 8: the current deforestation rate of native forest by industrial logging and agricultural development have been reduced, restored and protected to enhance the Solomon islands forest ecology.

Target 12: terrestrial and inland water, and coastal and marine areas of the Solomon Islands are protected and managed effectively, enabling an ecological, representative and well-connected system of protected area, and have been integrated into the wider island and seascape management initiatives.

Target 13: the Solomon islands has reaffirmed and enhanced its commitments towards the reducing and managing of known globally endangered species, and prevented endemic species from undergoing local

extinction; and has reinforced its commitments towards the global and regional efforts to prevent extinction of migratory threatened species

Target 14: ecosystems that provide essential services, particularly services related to water, its contribution to human health, livelihood and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, land owners, local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC): The draft National Action Program for Adaptation (NAPA) that are relevant to the project are the following: To increase the adaptive capacity and resilience of key vulnerable sectors (agriculture and food security); to increase the resilience and enhance adaptive capacity of coastal communities, socio-economic activities and infrastructure; and to integrate climate change adaptation strategies and measures into tourism planning
and development

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UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD): The draft National Action Program (NAP) spells out the following measures to combat desertification and land degradation in specific ecosystems that are relevant to the project, namely:

Solomon Islands has yet to engage in UNCCD target-setting processes for achieving LDN. This project will contribute to this process and support the broader implementation of the goals of UNCCD.

Agriculture Sector Growth Strategy and Investment Plan (2021-2030): The project will support the following policies, namely: Sub-Program 1.4 (National Land Use Planning) that will ensure the efficient and sustainable use of agricultural land resources according to agro-ecological zones and based on participatory processes; Sub-Program 1.5 (Biosecurity services): Enhanced protection from the incursion and impact of plant and animal pests and diseases, and improved market access through compliance with Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) and Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) agreements; Sub Program 2.1: Short and efficient food supply chains ensure the resilient availability of locally produced food, improve local economic development and enhance food and nutrition security; Sub-Program 2.5 (Disaster preparedness and recovery); Resilient and diverse farming systems coupled with preparedness for replanting and restocking ensures quick disaster recovery; Sub-Program 4.3 (High Value Crops Development), Increased and diversified exports and domestic use of well processed high value crops from sustainable farming systems with increasing profit margins for farmers in collaboration with private enterprises.

National Fisheries Policy (2019-2029). The Policy calls for the conservation, management, development and sustainable use of fisheries and aquatic resources of Solomon Islands. Policy Area 1 calls to Safeguard inshore and inland fisheries and associated ecosystems and ecosystem services, for good nutrition and increased socio-economic benefits. Policy Area 2: calls to increase, improve and diversify the benefits that the nation receives from its offshore fisheries resources. The project will support activities aimed at meeting these two policy objectives.

Solomon Islands acceded to the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments in 1988. The project will contribute to the national obligations under this convention through its work on biosecurity. Specific linkages will be defined during the PPG phase.

8. Knowledge Management

Elaborate the "Knowledge Management Approach" for the project, including a budget, key deliverables and a timeline, and explain how it will contribute to the project's overall impact.

Component 4 addresses knowledge and its management and is conceived as a key-crosscutting element of this project that will be addressed in all components. Key knowledge products will be identified in during the preparation of the communication and awareness strategy, along with their means of access and sharing among key stakeholders. Knowledge will be distributed and shared using the existing information systems within MECDM as well as other existing platforms to the extent possible. These will include national web-based platforms.

Given the project?s integrated landscape/seascape management approach, including IAS prevention and management and achievement of LDN and their comprehensive coverage in the local planning process (in consonance with CMFA, CMMA, and other community planning processes) that will be readily accessible via MECDM?s website, the project proposes to use this and other platforms for hosting various products emanating from this, and other projects. The costs for specific knowledge management activities for the project (excluding capacity building) is discussed in Table 6 below:

Table 6: Knowledge Management Products and Costs

Knowledge Management Products	**Costs USD**
KAP surveys	27,000
Website and Social Media Platforms (wetland platform)	35,000
Documentation of best practices	50,000
Dissemination events at provincial and local levels	16,000
Awareness and Communication programs	130,000

End of project seminar(s) to disseminate results and promote replication	30,000
Launch Workshops	30,000
Project Manager and Provincial Coordinators participation (KM related)	60,000
TOTAL	**378,000**

9. Monitoring and Evaluation

Describe the budgeted M and E plan

The project results, corresponding indicators and mid-term and end-of-project targets in the project results framework will be monitored annually and evaluated periodically during project implementation. The Monitoring Plan (included in Section VI of the project document) details the roles, responsibilities, and frequency of monitoring project results. While project-level monitoring and evaluation will be undertaken in compliance with UNDP requirements, additional mandatory GEF-specific M&E requirements will be undertaken in accordance with the GEF Monitoring and Evaluation Policy. In addition to these mandatory UNDP and GEF M&E requirements, other M&E activities deemed necessary to support project-level adaptive management will be agreed during the Project Inception Workshop and will be detailed in the Inception Report. The annual GEF PIR covering the reporting period July (previous year) to June (current year) will be completed for each year of project implementation. Any environmental and social risks and related management plans will be monitored regularly, and progress will be reported in the PIR. The GEF Core indicators included as Annex F will be used to monitor global environmental benefits and will be updated for reporting to the GEF prior to the TE. The updated monitoring data should be shared with TE consultants prior to required evaluation missions, so these can be used for subsequent ground truthing. The methodologies to be used in data collection have been defined by the GEF and are available on the GEF website.

An independent terminal evaluation (TE) will take place upon completion of all major project outputs and activities. The terms of reference, the evaluation process and the final TE report will follow the standard templates and guidance for GEF-financed projects available on the UNDP Evaluation Resource Center. The evaluation will be independent, impartial and rigorous. The evaluators that will be hired to undertake the assignment will be independent from organizations that were involved in designing, executing or advising on the project to be evaluated. Equally, the evaluators should not be in a position where there may be the possibility of future contracts regarding the project being evaluated.

The total indicative costs of the project's M&E are USD 364,000 with a break down in Table 7 as follows:

Table 7: Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

Monitoring and Evaluation Budget for project execution: Not required for EA projects.		
GEF M&E requirements to be undertaken by Project Management Unit (PMU)	Indicative costs (US$)	Time frame
Inception Workshop and Report	30,000	Inception Workshop within 2 months of the First Disbursement (at national and target site levels)
M&E required to report on progress made in reaching GEF core indicators and project results included in the project results framework	90,000	Annually and at mid-point and closure.
Monitoring of [SESP, IPP, ESMP GAP, SEP,]	91,000	Continuously as an on-going activity. To be undertaken by provincial and national consultants involved in monitoring related assignments and associated travel costs
Other M&E activities	40,000	Regular workshops and consultation associated with monitoring and evaluation of RFA, SESP, IPP, ESMP GAP, SEP, etc.
GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR)	NA	Annually typically between June-August
Supervision/learning missions	NA	Annually
Independent Mid-term Review (MTR):	55,000	Includes international and national consultants and travel costs Date: July 31, 2025
Independent Terminal Evaluation (TE):	58,000	Includes international and national consultants and travel costs Date: July 31, 2028
TOTAL indicative COST	364,000	Equivalent to TBWP component (M&E)

10. Benefits

Describe the socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the project at the national and local levels, as appropriate. How do these benefits translate in supporting the achievement of global environment benefits (GEF Trust Fund) or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF)?

The socio-economic benefits in the project will be observed at the individual (household level) as well as at the collective community level for economic groups like farmers, fishers and forest dependents as follows:

•At least 18,238 people lining, in and around the 12 landscape/seascapes will directly benefit through improved natural resource use, sustainable agriculture and fisheries activities, blue/green and diversified livelihood improvements and improved ecosystem services.
•Improved conservation of forests, community protected areas and IAS prevention and management activities and environmental practices will enhance the ecological value of the respective landscapes and seascapes
•Implementation of strategies and mainstreaming of sustainable resource use via the community organizations will result into sustainable practices in fisheries, forestry, agriculture, water conservation, value chain products and services. This will collectively result in better conservation and livelihoods outcomes;
•Improved access to basic goods and technical services, technology and improved agricultural, forestry and fisheries practices, as well as diversification of livelihoods in agriculture, fisheries and non-farm sector including tourism and agri-based products will ensure more livelihood options and better prices and income.
•The focus on addressing gender inequality wherein various initiatives, such as promotion of alternative livelihood options, participation of women in various local conservation committees are proposed. The project envisages more gender equality in context of sex ratio, decision making powers, ownership and control on resources and women leadership as well as participation;
•A reduction in the resource use conflicts and increase in effective implementation of sustainable practices.
•A reduction in the IAS conflicts and increase in effective implementation of IAS prevention and management practices. The project expects a decrease in IAS infestation in the 12 landscapes/seascapes
•Incremental funding through new cost-recovery measures will improve biosecurity measures, protect critical biodiversity hotspots and provide for improved and diversified livelihoods and incomes and a sustainability of such investments beyond the life of the project;
•Incremental funding through new and innovative financial measures will protect critical biodiversity hotspots and provide for improved and diversified livelihoods and incomes and a sustainability of such investments beyond the life of the project;
•Advancement of diversified and multi-cropping agricultural systems in degraded lands and small holder lands will enhance incomes
•Stable or improved populations of native species and improved forest and marine environments will greatly enhance visitor experiences for increasing potential for ecotourism and community financial benefit.

11. Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

Provide information on the identified environmental and social risks and potential impacts associated with the project/program based on your organization's ESS systems and procedures

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification*

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
Medium/Moderate	High or Substantial		

Measures to address identified risks and impacts

Elaborate on the types and risk classifications/ratings of any identified environmental and social risks and impacts (considering the GEF ESS Minimum Standards) and any measures undertaken as well as planned management measures to address these risks during implementation.

Project Information

Project Information	
1. Project Title	Safeguarding Solomon Islands endemic and globally threatened biodiversity and ecosystem services from key threats, particularly invasive alien species and unsustainable land use practices (SAFE project)
2. Project Number (i.e. Atlas project ID, PIMS+)	PIMS 6566
3. Location (Global/Region/Country)	Solomon Islands
4. Project stage (Design or Implementation)	Design
5. Date	

Part A. Integrating Programming Principles to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability

QUESTION 1: How Does the Project Integrate the Programming Principles in Order to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability?
Briefly describe in the space below how the project mainstreams the human rights-based approach

Human rights depend on a healthy environment, as degraded natural resources often mean the more marginalized and vulnerable communities are most affected. Resource and land-related degradation and conflicts already exist in Solomon Islands, and through its implementation activities the project aims to reduce these vulnerabilities and improve rather than impinge on local rights. The project objective is *Solomon Islands indigenous (threatened and endemic) species, natural ecosystems and land/seascapes are safeguarded from invasive alien species, land degradation, unsustainable resource use and climate-induced risks through effective government capacity, community participation and governance and green livelihoods in support of the blue/green economy.*

During the project preparatory and design stage (i.e. PPG) , analysis and assessment of environmental and social risks/impacts has been undertaken (as part of the project?s ESMF). This initial assessment included examining human rights conditions within the scope of the project. The detailed design of this project has thus included the incorporation of a human-rights based approach following national and international guidelines such as the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the UN Equality Act and Aarhus Convention principles. The human rights-based approach of the project will be achieved by encouraging equality, inclusion and participation in biodiversity conservation, invasive alien species (IAS) management and sustainable land management consultations, management planning and implementation. Through implementing a human-rights mainstreaming approach, a wide range of stakeholders will be engaged, consulted and participate in project planning and implementation activities (i.e. including representatives from different levels of government, Non-Governmental Organizations as well as local communities).

Given the presence of communities of indigenous people in all project land/seascapes, mechanisms will be identified and implemented to guarantee their meaningful, effective and informed participation throughout all elements of the project cycle. Initial consultations have occurred at the PIF stage with NGOs, CBOs and provincial governments relevant to the selected land/seascapes. This early concept/PIF consultation has been further built-off with detailed culturally appropriate consultations with communities at each of the project?s potential demonstration sites. These detailed consultations were carried out in the PPG phase of the project with the objective of achieving agreement (and where necessary FPIC) on any matters that may affect their rights and interests, lands, resources, territories (whether titled or untitled to the people in question) and traditional livelihoods. Local indigenous peoples in each of the four project sites (These five sites include, Reef Islands and Utupua Seascape/landscape, Western Solomons Biosphere, Solomon Tubi Forest Reserve and Lau and North Malaita Integrated Sustainable Management Area have been consulted and informed of the objectives, activities and potential impacts of the project. Any activities that may adversely affect the existence, value, use or enjoyment of indigenous lands, resources or territories shall not be conducted unless agreement has been achieved through an FPIC process. Potentially affected indigenous peoples have been informed of their right to withdraw consent at any time during project implementation, and have been informed of the various channels they may take to formally lodge a grievance with the relevant authority.

Within the detailed design of the project, focus has been given towards empowering marginalized groups, including youth and women. During the design/PPG phase, a detailed stakeholder analysis and engagement plan has been prepared together with a comprehensive list of all those stakeholders who have been consulted. Meeting minutes of each consultation with local communities have been documented, as has the process for establishing FPIC. This analysis has sought to capture the existing systems, languages, cultures and traditions of Solomon Islands and the demonstration land/seascapes in particular. Building off of this stakeholder analysis , the project design has sought to ensure that relevant (i.e. for the conservation of biodiversity, sustainable land management, and their customary use of biological resources) practices of indigenous and local communities are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations. A monitoring and evaluation process has been incorporated into the project design with strong local participation, enabling human-rights abuses or grievances within project activities to be addressed efficiently and transparently

To ensure the effective integration of a human-rights based approach, measures have been incorporated into the project document to support the project Board, staff team, consultants and duty bearers to follow this rights-based approach. Human rights standards and considerations have been embedded within the capacity building and awareness raising of the team and local community. Equal opportunities are required to be upheld within all employment that arises as a result of the project.

Briefly describe in the space below how the project is likely to improve gender equality and women?s empowerment

Gender equality is a key Outcome for the United Nations Pacific Strategy 2018 ? 2022: Outcome 2 ?Gender Equality: By 2022, gender equality is advanced in the Pacific, where more women and girls are empowered and enjoy equal opportunities and rights in social, economic, and political spheres, contribute to and benefit from national development, and live a life free from violence and discrimination[1]?. This project aims to contribute to women?s empowerment through involvement in decision-making and support for green livelihoods and sustainable land management. Women?s rights and participation will be monitored against defined indicators and targets throughout the project; a target of the project will be to score at least 2 as per the UN?s Gender Marker system, meaning that the project will promote gender equality significantly[2].

Gender Equality is also a stated priority of the Government of Solomon Islands, and all ministries and sectors share the responsibility for achieving gender equality. Traditional norms influence gender relations in different Solomon Islands cultures in terms of division of labour, property rights, and decision making. Key societal gender concerns include access to legal and judicial support, health, education, economic empowerment, decision-making and leadership, violence against women[3].

A comprehensive gender analysis specific to Solomon Islands and the project?s demonstration land/seascapes has been undertaken during the project design/PPG phase. .This analysis has sought to determine the roles of women, identify inequalities or vulnerabilities, cultural, social, religious, and other constraints on women?s potential participation. This Gender Analysis also reviewed best practices achieved by previous local initiatives, such as in the Arnavon Community Marine Conservation Area[4] where TNC has facilitated a Women?s network (KAWAKI) to unite women around conservation, culture and community to create a better future for their children[5], and in projects in the Western Province which have helped women establishing savings clubs. Gender related issues will also be assessed and examined in the project?s ESMF.

The key recommendations from this analysis have been captured in a Gender Action Plan, and further mainstreamed within the project framework. This includes the incorporation of age and sex-disaggregated data and gender statistics with applicable measurable indicators related to gender equality and women?s empowerment.

During project implementation, activities will be undertaken that aim to reduce gender inequalities and support rights for women in the demonstration land/seascapes , through capacity development and female participation in consultations, awareness raising and knowledge sharing. Both women and men will be provided with equal access to advice and job opportunities within the auspices of the project. The project will adopt and adhere to relevant guidelines such as those of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, as well as UNDP and GEF gender policies.

During project design/PPG, consultation and outreach has sought to engage with women?s groups within the project demonstration sites. During implementation Women?s groups will be empowered to advise different aspects of the project, and female representatives and leadership positions will be enabled within the architecture of the project. Opportunities and choices will be given to women that should strengthen women?s rights in the wider community, households and family networks. The economic status of women, and particularly vulnerable women, will be specifically targeted through the project?s work to support green livelihoods.

Briefly describe in the space below how the project mainstreams sustainability and resilience

Solomon Islands has been identified as part of the East Melanesian Biodiversity Hotspot[6] due to the wide range of ecosystems and biodiversity it harbours, including 37 Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs). The country and the proposed demonstration land/seascapes host large numbers of IUCN Red List and endemic species. Unsustainable land use practices (deforestation, unsustainable farming, mining), invasive alien species, over-exploitation, pollution and climate change are all impacting the local environment, threatening the sustainability of natural resources, globally significant biodiversity as well as the wellbeing of local people, including diverse indigenous communities.

During the PPG, a detailed assessment has been conducted of the status of, and threats to, biodiversity and the wider environment in the demonstration land/seascapes. This initial assessment provides the basis for identifying the measures to be included in the detailed project design for mainstreaming biodiversity into ecosystem management, conservation of species and managing the threats from IAS and sustainable land management. The assessment covers both the status of globally threatened and endemic biodiversity and IAS, as well as a review of opportunities to reduce threats from IAS and land degradation to enhance biodiversity conservation.

The project has a strong focus on the mainstreaming of sustainability and resilience through mainstreaming biodiversity. Specifically, the project aims to contribute to mainstreaming biodiversity by: a) supporting national and provincial government to establish inter-sectoral governance mechanisms for biodiversity conservation, IAS and sustainable land management and to enhance capacity, regulations, tools and guidelines; b) developing and implementing a National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan (NISSAP) and ensuring better biosecurity at ports and airports to stop IAS incursions; c) demonstrating in priority land/seascapes improved biodiversity conservation and IAS and sustainable land management through community based natural resource management and green livelihoods; d) raising public awareness and improving knowledge management and sharing of best practices.

The project addresses key priorities identified in Solomon Islands National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan (2016-2020); the Aichi targets under the UN Convention on Biological Diversity; targets under the UN Convention to Combat Desertification, the UN Pacific Strategy 2018 ? 2022, as well as international SDGs (particularly SDG 14: Life Below Water and SDG 15: Life on Land).

Briefly describe in the space below how the project strengthens accountability to stakeholders

The project has worked closely with local community members/islanders, including women groups, representation of all the ethnic groups (i.e. through contact with Tribal Chiefs and Elders), differently abled, and extremely poor in rural areas that depend heavily on the islands? terrestrial and the surrounding areas? marine ecosystems to meet the basic necessities (food, clean drinking water, shelter, and livelihoods) through a participatory approach during the project design, development, phase. This continued engagement will also be a crucial element of project implementation. During the design phase (i.e. PPG), such consultation and engagement with local peoples was crucial in setting priorities and inputs for the development of the project activities. This in turn ensured that positive impacts reach these communities during the implementation phase.

Key stakeholders listed above were engaged at an early stage in the development of this project via a robust round of consultations, where the project team and representatives visited the five potential demonstration sites and undertook detailed consultations. This provided an ideal setting to share ideas, aims and global goals to be achieved through this project, as well as overviews of social and environmental standards, including UNDP?s grievance and redress mechanism.

Part B. Identifying and Managing Social and Environmental Risks

QUESTION 2: What are the Potential Social and Environmental Risks? *Note: Complete SESP Attachment 1 before responding to Question 2.*	**QUESTION 3: What is the level of significance of the potential social and environmental risks?** *Note: Respond to Questions 4 and 5below before proceeding to Question 5*			**QUESTION 6: Describe the assessment and management measures for each risk rated Moderate, Substantial or High**
Risk Description ***(broken down by event, cause, impact)***	***Impact and Likelihood (1-5)***	***Significance*** ***(Low, Moderate Substantial, High)***	***Comments (optional)***	***Description of assessment and management measures for risks rated as Moderate, Substantial or High***

Risk 1: *The introduction of new natural resource management practices, enforcement controls and/or strengthened biosecurity protocols/clearances in the demonstration land/seascapes (and via associated national-level policy and strategy developments under Component 1 and 2) could affect traditional rights or access to some land and resources, potentially increasing conflict between communities and likely affecting more marginalized or vulnerable groups including indigenous peoples.* Principle (Human Rights): P.5, P.6, P.7 Standard 4: 4.1, 4.5 Standard 5: 5.2, 5.4 Standard 6: 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.5, 66.6, 6.9	I = 4 L = 3	**Substantial**	Solomon Islands has a wide diversity of tribes with distinct customs and norms including customary land ownership, cultural practices, languages and traditions meeting the broad UNDP definition of Indigenous Peoples. In all five proposed demonstration land/seascapes, local communities, including indigenous people, living within or near these areas may use them for livelihoods (subsistence/small scale farming, fisheries or forestry) or have traditional rights for harvesting natural resources. There have been conflicts between indigenous communities over natural resource use and land tenure in Solomon Islands, and these could be exacerbated if project activities build on existing impacts or if they are not managed properly. The COVID-19 pandemic may increase the chance of such conflicts due to impacts on the local economy and movements of people from towns back to rural areas. Resistance is more likely from older generations	The process of consulting with communities in the demonstration land/seascapes began at PIF stage through discussions with relevant NGOs, CSOs and provincial authorities working in the areas, and was further strengthened through meaningful consultation at the project?s demonstration sites during the design/PPG phase. Detailed consultations with full effective and meaningful participation of the indigenous peoples concerned has been made during the PPG phase by experts hired specifically to ensure culturally sensitive approaches. Through the overarching ESMF and IPPF, these consultations will continue iteratively throughout implementation and closure of the project. Through this process, agreement (and, where required, free prior and informed consent (FPIC)) will be obtained from communities on any project activities that may affect their rights and interests, lands or resources. The risk of not obtaining FPIC is included in Risk 4. During the PPG phase a stakeholder analysis and extensive consultation has been undertaken by project staff and external experts to discuss project activities with local and indigenous communities in all four of the proposed demonstration land/seascapes. These four sites include, Reef Islands and Utupua Seascape/landscape, Western Solomons Biosphere, Solomon Tubi Forest Reserve and Lau and North Malaita Integrated Sustainable Management Area. All four sites are owned by indigenous local tribal groups and are mostly on customary land. Based on the assessment of this and other risks, and to ensure that the project meets the high standards required by UNDP and Government, preparation of an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) by relevant specialists has been included and undertaken as part of project design/PPG. The ESMF assesses the need for further impact assessment during project implementation. It is tentatively foreseen that targeted/scoped ESIAs,

Risk 2 *Women and other marginalized groups could face discrimination or lack voice within decisions, benefits and resources surrounding project design and implementation.* Principle (Gender Equality and Women?s Empowerment): P.8, P.9, P.10, P.11 Principle (Accountability): P.13	I = 4 L = 2	Moderate	Due to existing local hierarchies, cultural practices and traditional governance, gender imbalances exist in governance, community and household positions within the demonstration land/seascapes. In three of the provinces hosting demonstration land/seascapes (Western Province, Temotu Province, Isabel Province) households are governed through matrilineal systems where ownership of land/resources is handed down through women. However, when it comes to decisions on land and natural resources use, decisions are usually done by male family members and not necessarily women. For systems where inheritance of rights, land, resources is passed down through male (patrilineal), especially in Choiseul and Malaita Provinces, decision making is done by men. Women could therefore be marginalized within project stakeholder participation, governance arrangements, capacity building, livelihoods	A detailed assessment of specific local challenges and inequalities for women and other marginalized groups has been undertaken as part of the project preparatory work (and has been captured in the project?s Gender Analysis/Gender Action Plan). The scope of the gender analysis/assessment sought to determine the roles of women, identify inequalities or vulnerabilities, cultural, social, religious, and other constraints on women?s potential participation and any rights issues within the spatial boundaries of the project?s demonstration sites and sphere of influence. The key recommendations from the gender analysis have been captured in a Gender Action Plan and mainstreamed within the project framework. This includes the incorporation of age and sex-disaggregated data/gender statistics and specific measurable indicators related to gender equality and women?s empowerment. During the project design phase, considerations have been made and embedded in the project?s framework that aim to reduce gender inequalities within the project?s sphere of influence and support rights for women in the demonstration land/seascapes through capacity development and female participation, with the support of community leaders and local governments. Both women and men will be provided with equal access to advice and opportunities, including in project governance mechanisms and through any project-related benefits. - The goal for gender-rights development within the project will be Gen 2, following the UN Markers meaning that the project will promote gender equality significantly

Risk 3: *The introduction of incentives, project related employment and support for sustainable land management or green livelihoods could cause conflict if not implemented carefully and managed equitably or may support employment that fails to comply with national and international labour standards* Principle (Human Rights): P.7 Standard 7: 7.1, 7.5	I= 3 L= 2	Moderate	Financial incentive mechanisms such as small grants or the establishment of savings clubs have the ability to engage community support and assist the more marginalized groups; however, they also have the potential to cause conflict if they are mismanaged or change the current economic systems. Recruitment for project-related employment could also cause conflict. Although there have been no cases of community transmission of Covid-19 in Solomon Islands, the pandemic has greatly impacted the economy and livelihoods of Solomon Islanders impacting sectors such as forestry, tourism and transport. At the local level, it is impacting food security and livelihoods as small-scale informal sectors including street and market vendors are ordered to temporarily close down by the government, leading to	As part of the project?s ESMF, the need for an assessment of the current socio-economic conditions within the demonstration land/seascapes (and within sectors/regions that may be impacted via policy decisions, most specifically through the NISSAP, and biosecurity strategy developed under Outputs 1.1 and 2.1), use of natural resources and any incentive mechanisms, based on thorough consultations with local communities has been required during the first year of implementation. This assessment will need to consider the needs and preferences of the community and ensure that they fully understand the costs and benefits of potential project interventions. The preliminary livelihood assessment will need to consider the ongoing impact that the Covid-19 pandemic has had on local communities (i.e. their cash flow, food security issues, and migratory flows). In the full project design document, financial incentive mechanisms and diversification of livelihoods have been planned so as not to negatively affect existing economic systems. Instead, they have been designed to ensure additional benefits to the community as a whole, with emphasis on empowering and including marginalized groups and individuals. To ensure effective management of any livelihood-related issues that may eventuate during the implementation of the project, a Livelihood Action Plan will be developed in. Year 1 of the project?s implementation. It shall seek to determine management measures /actions as well as monitoring indicators for any livelihood-related activities/mitigation measures. The LAP will be informed by other associated project initiatives s such as the ESIAs and ILSMS that will be undertaken at each of the project?s demonstration land/seascapes associated with Component The scoped/targeted ESIAs will assess potential issues relating to labor and working conditions (and shall establish

Risk 4: *The project may not effectively engage and ensure participation of all stakeholders, including women, indigenous peoples and ethnic minorities, during the project design and the implementation phases. Due to existing inequalities, rights holders may not have the capacity to claim their rights.* Principle (Human Rights) : P.3, P.5 Principle (Accountability): P.13 Standard 6: 6.4	I = 4 L = 2	Moderate	Due to marginalization, or a lack of literacy and education some marginalized groups in the demonstration land/seascapes of the relevant regions in Solomon Islands may not be equally represented within the project. In initial project design/PPG consultations at the project demonstration sites, women were distinctly not as vocal as men. Traditional patriarchal biases and hieratical structures in the given project sites (particularly in Isabel, Western and Temotu Province) may hinder their capacity to claim their rights or be able to have equal participation in the project. While Tribal chiefs, in each of the project?s demonstration sites, represent the key decision-makers, based on traditional societal norms, women?s views have been sought through discussion amongst the women of the community, who then rely on their perception to the relevant traditional leaders/tribal chiefs. .	During the PPG phase, the project has undertaken comprehensive engagement with key stakeholders, particularly the communities of indigenous people in each of the demonstration land/seascapes to assess existing inequalities and will define measures to ensure they are addressed within the full project design documentation. Marginalized or vulnerable groups, such as youth and women have been specifically targeted for consultation and engagement due to traditional hierarchies. On-going consultation will be required and sought for a variety of project activities, most notably under Activities 3.1.6, 3.2.2, and 3.2.3 (for demonstration site-level activities, and Outputs 1.1, 1.2, and 2.1 for policy-level/strategy development initiatives. On-going consultation with affected stakeholders will also be undertaken during the conduct of the SESA and IPP that will need to be developed for this project. The IPP (that will be developed during implementation, following the requirements outlined in the project?s IPPF) will also ensure that indigenous peoples are able to share/access benefits from the project in a culturally appropriate manner. As a result of the detailed consultations that have been conducted during the PPG phase , a comprehensive stakeholder engagement plan has been prepared as an annex to the full project document. As some project sites and activities have not been finalized in fine-level detail at the time of project design, formal FPIC will need to be obtained (especially for Component 3 related activities) before any relevant implementation starts. Given the triggering of Standard 6 (Indigenous Peoples), FPIC procedures have been developed and embedded in the project?s ESMF, IPPF, SEP and future required management plans/assessments (such as the IPP) . A grievance redress mechanism has been designed and incorporated within the project?s ESMF and IPPF. Monitoring and evaluation processes

Risk 5: *Project board members, and project staff may not have the necessary capacity to uphold their duties regarding rights and the requirements of UNDP?s SES. In the absence of national requirements on FPIC, project duty bearers may not have the knowledge and understanding of UNDP?s requirements of FPIC when undertaking activities (most notably in Component 1&2 for Policy-level decisions, and Component 3 for demonstration site-level impacts) that will require strict compliance and adherence to the UNDP SES.* Principle (Human Rights): P.2 Standard 6: 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.5	I = 4 L = 1	Low	Capacity may also be reduced as a result of conflicting demands for project board members and staff arising as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.	During the PPG phase, a capacity assessment of national and provincial stakeholders has been undertaken to better understand the capacity to uphold duties, rights and safeguards, within the delivery of the project?s implementation. Based on the findings of the capacity assessment, SES-related training and capacity building has been integrated into project design in order to support duty bearers (particularly members of the Project Board, project staff and consultants and government officials) so that they can better understand their responsibilities for human rights. Budgetary considerations to address gender/ safeguards issues have been costed and allocated as necessary in the final project design document, such that technical support and training on gender and safeguards will be provided to the PMU/Board at the start of the project. A monitoring and evaluation process will monitor the development of capacity within the project team and stakeholder groups.

Risk 6: *The effects of climate change such as flooding, droughts and storms could impact project areas and activities (most specifically under Component 3, i.e., Output 3.1, 3.3 and Activity 3.4.4) and vulnerable communities. Climate variability and change will increase frequency and intensity of natural disasters and this can potentially delay or destroy project interventions.* Standard 2: 2.1, 2.2, 2.3	I = 3 L = 4	**Moderate**	Climate change is a severe threat to low-lying coasts and atoll ecosystems throughout Solomon Islands due to sea level rise, storms and temperature changes. Storms can also lead to flooding and landslides from the mountains increasing the threats from land degradation. Disaster risks such as tropical cyclones are increasing in intensity and may impact on project implementation. Climate change and land degradation also intersect with threats from IAS, increasing opportunities for new incursions or spread. Planned project activities have been designed to contribute towards the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change impacts on the vulnerability of communities through improved natural resources management and avoid the potential for maladaptive practices.	The initial environmental and social assessment that has been undertaken as part of the project?s ESMF, has included the consideration of climate vulnerability by adopting local and expert advice over areas most at risk as well as species, habitats or communities that could be affected. Climate vulnerability has been included throughout project design, given the intersection with threats from land degradation and IAS). A separate pre-screening climate change assessment was undertaken for the PIF, which has informed the design of the full project. . Potential climate risks/impacts that have been identified in preliminary screening have been factored into the full project design. With associated mitigation and management measures planned and budgeted. Climate change mitigation and adaptation measures have been embedded in the project design through improved natural resources management, green livelihoods, capacity building and awareness. Demonstrations on the ground have been designed to illustrate how integrated natural resources management can be a key tool in addressing climate change.

Risk 7: *The project could have unintended impacts on valuable natural habitats, globally threatened or endemic species, or production systems if activities are improperly executed, e.g. potential overharvesting of native species, improperly executed IAS control could lead to increased spread/invasion of IAS if biosecurity/ decontamination protocols are not followed, broadscale weed removal could result in bare land and increased erosion risk, poor habitat management could lead to risks to threatened species if habitat needs/requirements not met.* *In addition, measures to control IAS including physical removal or the use of chemicals (pesticides or herbicides) may create hazardous waste or cause environmental pollution..* Standard 1: 1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 1.7 Standard 8: 8.1, 8.2, 8.4, 8.5	I = 4 L = 3	**Substantial**	The project aims to strengthen biodiversity conservation, reduce impacts of IAS and land degradation. Therefore, environmental impacts are expected to be positive. However, there is a possibility that integrated management and sustainable management of agricultural lands may negatively impact important biodiversity, or that damaging IAS may be intentionally introduced for control of other IAS, or that livelihood development may overharvest native species. After physical removal, some IAS may create hazardous waste because of their ability to invade new areas from rhizomes or eggs etc. Chemicals used to treat IAS may cause environmental pollution by seeping into water courses. Institutions may fail to comply with national and international environmental safety standards.	The project design has sought to ensure that existing threats to biodiversity or land degradation are addressed and that no new threats are caused by project activities. Under demonstration activities in Component 3, the project document specifically states that no non-native species will be used for SLM, reforestation or for livelihood development. In order to assess potential impacts, and to inform the development of the management plans themselves, ESIAs will be conducted as part of Output 3.1 for each of the target sites. The scoped ESIAs for each site will inform the development of each of the ILSMS (which in turn will include/incomplete the elements of a site specific ESMP). The ESMF also outlines a procedure for assessing any future environmental and social impacts that arise during project implementation. Any proposed IAS control/removal efforts (including under co-financing) will take place under clear SOPs and management plans, with consideration of potential environmental and social impacts. The project will ensure that appropriate protocols are developed and deployed for those working in locations that require biosecurity, with subsequent site-specific OHS plans being required where a risk to worker safety exists. If the use of chemicals is required at any point for IAS control measures, all relevant activities involving pesticide application will require a site-specific Pesticide Management Plan, developed in accordance with good international practice. The project will avoid supporting the use, manufacture and trade of chemicals subject to international bans, restrictions or phase-outs The plans will be developed in accordance with good international practice, and will avoid supporting the manufacture, trade, and use of chemicals and hazardous materials subject to international bans,

Risk 8: *The project could contribute to cumulative environmental or social impacts in the area through unintended negative consequences from policy or legislative changes, such as those proposed under Output 1.2 (i.e., improved land use policy, regulations and multi-sector coordination) and the National strategy for IAS management (NISSAP) developed under Output 2.1.* Standard 1: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.14	I = 3 L = 2	**Moderate**	As per the previous risk (i.e. Risk 7), environmental and social impacts are expected to be overwhelmingly positive. However, there is a possibility that upstream policy or legislative changes supported by the project may negatively impact important biodiversity, or bring additional threats from IAS or may negatively affect livelihoods	Mainstreaming of biodiversity into different sectors under project Output 1.1, and other policy initiatives under Output 1.2, and Output 2.1 (i.e. NISSAP) will follow the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) approach. The project document specifically states that SESA will be applied to all new policies and legislation/regulations/ordinances (most specifically those under Output 1.1, 1.2 and 2.1) prior to approval by the Government and this has been built into detailed project design.. The project?s ESMF also took into account the need to further assess potential issues relating to cumulative impacts (both direct and indirect).

Risk 9: *Measures to control invasive alien species may be hazardous for the project team, officials and pose potential risks to community health, could exacerbate risks of erosion and landslides (posing safety risks to communities), and may not comply with best practice health and safety standards.* Standard 3: 3.4, 3.5, 3.6 Standard 7: 7.6	I = 4 L = 2	**Moderate**	Some IAS may be poisonous or lead to skin irritations. Chemicals or physical methods used to manage IAS may be toxic or dangerous. Improperly designed control/removal of IAS (including via co-financing) could exacerbate potential risk of erosion or landslides which could result in safety impacts on communities. Institutions may fail to comply with national and international safety standards and community members participating in IAS control or government officials conducting biosecurity at ports of entry/exit may not be adequately trained or equipped, e.g. in fumigation methods.	During the PPG phase an IAS management expert has been hired to assess this risk in detail, identifying risk areas and vulnerable stakeholders. This analysis also considered existing safety guidelines and their application as well as knowledge of safety procedures (amongst project implementers) and capacity to follow them. During project design it has been determined that new guidelines for IAS management and control will be developed at the start of the project implementation In addition safety equipment will be provided (eg. PPE) and staff and local communities will be trained around dangers of managing IAS and steps to manage the associated risks (as part of activity 2.2.6). Regular safety checks will have been built into the project design, with responsible parties being specified for overseeing H&S aspects of the project?s implementation.

Risk 10: *The proposed project may result in interventions in the demonstration land/seascapes (most specifically under component 3) that would potentially adversely impact sites, structures, or objects with historical, cultural, artistic, traditional or religious values or intangible forms of culture (e.g. knowledge, innovations, practices).* Standard 4: 4.1, 4.2, 4.5 Standard 6: 6.1, 6.5, 6.9	I = 4 L = 3	**Substantial**	The proposed integrated management plans, biodiversity conservation measures and IAS and land degradation management measures proposed under Component 3 may impact cultural sites or intangible forms of culture	During the PPG phase , the project team undertook the development of an ESMF which included the preliminary assessment of risks to cultural heritage (both tangible and intangible). As the exact sites of project interventions are not finalized, further assessment/identification of risk areas and vulnerable cultural heritage in each demonstration land/seascape will need to be undertaken during project implementation. Such identification and assessment of potential impacts to cultural heritage (including the use of traditional knowledge) will be included as part of the targeted/scoped ESIAs undertaken as part of Output 3.1 during the development of the ILSMS. In addition, as specified in the ESMF**,** Guidelines for safeguarding cultural heritage may need to be developed at the start of the project and staff, consultants and government officers will be trained around risks to cultural heritage. Procedures and protocols for handling chance finds will be coordinated with the national cultural heritage authority, with the engagement of locally affected peoples. .

Risk 11: *Project or UNDP staff/consultants travelling to Honiara and demonstration land/seascapes could increase risk of COVID-19 spread if pandemic is prolonged or if a different pandemic emerges during the project?s lifetime.* Standard 3: 3.4	I = 4 L = 1	**Moderate**	There have been 20 confirmed cases of COVID 19 in Solomon Islands since the WHO declared a pandemic in early 2020, with no reported deaths. However, a surge in cases may emerge during the implementation phase, or a different pandemic may emerge during the project?s lifetime. There would therefore be significant consequences if transmission occurred by project consultants or project or UNDP staff visiting the country or moving between islands.	Detailed assessment of this risk was undertaken by UNDP prior to the initiation of the PPG and full implementation stages of the project. Screening for the risk of spreading communicable diseases has been included within the auspices of the ProDoc and will continue to be monitored throughout the project?s timeline. Given the current restrictions and pandemic-related travel requirements, PPG activities have been undertaken by national consultants, supported remotely by international specialists and external UNDP staff (no international staff have travelled to the Solomon Islands at the time of the PPG). The potential for inter-island transmission has been reduced by the project including a high degree of devolution of implementation responsibility to local level (i.e. working through provincial staff and local coordinators). Should there be a relaxation on travel restrictions in the future that might allow international specialists to participate in full implementation of the project, internationally recognized biosecurity standards will need to be followed.

Risk 12: *Due diligence has not yet been completed to ensure there are no enhanced safeguards risks from working with private sector companies / co-financers with whom the project may cooperate to support biodiversity and LDN activities (most notably under Output 3.4., Activity 3.4.4)* . Principle (Human Rights): P.2 Principle (Accountability): P.14	I = 3 L = 3	**Moderate**	The project aims to engage the private sector in line with GEF expectations. Potential partners identified at PIF stage include tourism sector (eg with SolTuna, Bilikiki Cruises, Dive Solomons, local eco-resorts); forestry sector (eg. Guadalcanal Plains Palm Oil Ltd (GPPOL)). Due diligence has not yet been completed with these private sector partners to confirm they adhere to UNDP expectations on exclusionary criteria, potential controversies and commitment to ESG, and that any potential risks can be managed through conditions.	Potential private sector partners and related activities (including co-financing) will be subject to completion of due diligence, including use of the UNDP Private Sector Risk Assessment Tool. Partnership agreements will be established with each private sector partner prior to the start of any partnership working. Such agreements will be fully aligned with UNDPs private sector partnerships policy including any conditions according to the findings of UNDP Private Sector Risk Assessment Tool. The above-mentioned required procedures are furthered outlined and specified in the project?s ESMF,

Risk 13: Certain areas of the Solomon Islands are contaminated with UXO left-over from the Second World War. UXO could potentially harm or kill project workers and/or stakeholders within the project?s demonstration sites. Standard 3: 3.5 Standard 7: 7.6	I= 4 L= 1	**Moderate**	Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) from the Second World War still contaminates some areas in the Solomon Islands, and can injure or kill people if they detonate. The Government, in cooperation with NGOs and the international community, has made significant efforts to document contaminated lands and introduce preventive measures, however injury and fatalities still occur,	The UXO-related safety risks to both communities, and the project?s potential workforce have been preliminary assessed as part of the project?s ESMF. While the full mapping and documentation of UXO within the Solomon Islands is not complete, injuries and fatalities remain relatively rare in the proposed demonstration sites of the project. The majority of recent injuries and fatalities relating to UXO in the Solomon Islands has been from the direct detonation, handling and/or storage of UXO and other remnants of war. Identification and assessment of potential risks relating to UXO at each of the proposed demonstration sites will be included as part of the targeted/scoped ESIAs undertaken as part of Output 3.1 during the development of the ILSMS. During project implementation, the project team shall inform the relevant national authorities and/or NGOs or any activities that are in likely contaminated areas. In such instances, project staff shall be trained on the identification and safety measures for any activity within said areas.

	QUESTION 4: What is the overall project risk categorization?		
	Low Risk	**?**	
	Moderate Risk	**?**	

	Substantial Risk	**?**	This screening exercise (SESP) has identified 13 risks, one which has been identified as low risk, 11 of which have been scored as Moderate, one which has been categorized as Substantial. As such, the project has an overall categorization of **Substantial risk.** All principles and standards of UNDP?s SES are triggered by this project as outlined in its SESP. Along with additional targeted risk/impact assessments that may need to be undertaken during project implementation, the risks identified have been further assessed and outlined in the project?s ESMF. The ESMF serves as a framework from which further procedures and requirements on environmental and social management/performance have been specified for the project.		
	High Risk	**?**			
	QUESTION 5: Based on the identified risks and risk categorization, what requirements of the SES are triggered? (check all that apply)				
	Question only required for Moderate, Substantial and High Risk projects				
	Is assessment required? (check if ?yes?)	**?** -			***Status? (completed, planned)***

	if yes, indicate overall type and status		**?**	Targeted assessment(s)	Initial assessment included within project?s ESMF and IPPF. Further future risk assessment procedures are also outlined in the project?s ESMF.
			?	ESIA (Environmental and Social Impact Assessment)	Planned (Targeted ESIAs will be undertaken and shall inform the ISLMS at each of the project?s demonstration sea/landscapes as part of Output 3.1)
			?	SESA (Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment)	Planned
	Are management plans required? (check if ?yes)	**?**			
	If yes, indicate overall type		**?**	Targeted management plans (e.g. Gender Action Plan, Emergency Response Plan, Waste Management Plan, others)	Completed: Gender Action Plan, Stakeholder Engagement Plan

			?	ESMP (Environmental and Social Management Plan which may include range of targeted plans)	Planned (with Indigenous Peoples Plan) (The elements for a site-specific ESMP will be developed and included within the ILSMS for each project demonstration sea/landscape)
			?	ESMF (Environmental and Social Management Framework)	Completed (with IPPF)
	Based on identified <u>risks</u>, which Principles/Project-level Standards triggered?		**Comments (not required)**		
	Overarching Principle: Leave No One Behind				
	Human Rights	**?**	Risk 1 Risk 2 Risk 3 Risk 4 Risk 5 Risk 12		
	Gender Equality and Women?s Empowerment	**?**	Risk 2		

	Accountability	**?**	Risk 1 Risk 3 Risk 4 Risk 5
	1. Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management	**?**	Risk 7 Risk 8 Risk 12
	2. Climate Change and Disaster Risks	**?**	Risk 6
	3. Community Health, Safety and Security	**?**	Risk 7 Risk 9 Risk 12 Risk 13
	4. Cultural Heritage	**?**	Risk 10
	5. Displacement and Resettlement	**?**	Risk 1
	6. Indigenous Peoples	**?**	Risk 1
	7. Labour and Working Conditions	**?**	Risk 9 Risk 13
	8. Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency	**?**	Risk 7

[1] United Nations Pacific Strategy 2018 ? 2022. https://www.unicef.org/about/execboard/files/Final_UNPS_2018-2022_Pacific.pdf

[2] UNDP Gender Equality Strategy 2018-2021 https://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/gender/UNDP%20Gender%20Equality%20Strategy%202018-2021.pdf

[3] Asian Development Bank. Solomon Islands country gender assessment. Mandaluyong City, Philippines: Asian Development Bank, 2015. https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/institutional-document/176812/sol-country-gender-assessment.pdf

[4] https://www.sprep.org/attachments/VirLib/Regional/community-based-action-sids.pdf

[5] https://www.nature.org/en-us/about-us/where-we-work/asia-pacific/asia-and-the-pacific-women-in-conservation/kawaki-women-s-group/

[6] https://www.cepf.net/sites/default/files/emi_ecosystem_profile.pdf

[7] https://digitalarchive.worldfishcenter.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.12348/4195/Program%20Report_2020-22_Covid19%20Report.pdf?sequence=2&isAllowed=y

Supporting Documents

Upload available ESS supporting documents.

Title	Module	Submitted
PIMS_6566_Annex_5_SESP_7-Jan-2022	**CEO Endorsement ESS**	
Solomon Islands-GEF7-SESP_Revised_14Oct2020	**Project PIF ESS**	

ANNEX A: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK (either copy and paste here the framework from the Agency document, or provide reference to the page in the project document where the framework could be found).

This project will contribute to the following Sustainable Development Goal (s): *SDG 2 (End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture); SDG 14 (Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development) and SDG 15 (Protect, restore, and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss*)				
This project will contribute to the following country outcome (UNDAF/CPD, RPD, GPD): Climate Change,Disaster Resilience , and Environmental Protection (Outcome 1): By 2022 People and ecosystems in the Pacific are more resilient to the impacts of climate change, climate variability, disasters and environment protection is strengthened **NDP Strategic Plan 2018-2021: Signature Solution 4**: Promote nature-based solutions for a sustainable planet; **Output 1.4.1** Solutions scaled up for sustainable management of natural resources, including sustainable commodities and green and inclusive value chains				
	Objective and Outcome Indicators **(no more than a total of 20 indicators)**	**Baseline**	**Mid-term Target**	**End of Project Target**
Project Objective: Solomon Islands indigenous species and ecosystems at reduced risk from invasive alien species, land degradation and unsustainable resource use as	*Indicator 1:* **Mandatory** GEF Core Indicators 1: **Terrestrial protected areas** created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Hectares)	*METT baseline scores:* *Western Biosphere Reserve (15,290 ha) ? 42* *Maliata Highlands (2,000 ha) ? 20* *Solomon Tubi Forest Reserve (10,074 ha) - 27*	*At least 27,364 ha of terrestrial protected area under improved management with 10 point increase from baseline values*	*At least 27,364 ha of terrestrial protected area under improved management with at least 20 point increase from baseline values*

a result of effective government enabling and capacity, community participation and resilient blue/green livelihoods.	*Indicator 2:* **Mandatory** GEF Core Indicators 2: **Marine protected areas** created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Hectares)	*METT baseline scores:* *Temoto seascape (20,400 ha) ? 29* *Western Biosphere Marine Reserve (14,800 ha) ? 32* *Lau Lago (4,200 ha) - 29*	*At least 39,400 ha of marine protected area under improved management with at least 10 point increase from baseline values*	*At least 39,400 ha of marine protected area under improved management with at least 20 point increase from baseline values*
	Indicator 3: **Mandatory** GEF Core Indicators 4: Area of **landscapes under improved practices** (excluding protected areas) (Hectares) (including seascapes and landscapes) includes: CI 4.1 Area of landscape under improved management to benefit biodiversity ? 61,829 hectares CI 4.3 Area of landscapes under SLM in production systems ? 14,429 hectares	No concerted efforts currently exist at landscape/seascape level that enables integrated and holistic natural resources use practices	*At least 22,000 hectares of production landscapes under improved management practices, including:* *CI 4.1: 20,000 hectares under improved management to benefit biodiversity and* *CI 4.3: 2,000 hectares under SLM in production systems*	*At least 76,258 hectares of production landscapes under improved management practices to benefit biodiversity (61,829 ha) and under SLM (14,429 ha) as measured by (i) commitment of local communities to implement improved conservation and land use practices; (ii) technical support and training being delivered to communities; (iii) monitoring system in place to monitor improved outcomes*
	Indicator 4: **Mandatory** GEF Core Indicators 4: **Greenhouse gas emission mitigated** (tCO2e)	Currently limited or no efforts to assess carbon values	*Monitoring system and methodology established for monitoring and staff trained*	*819,118 (tCO2e) mitigated over 20 year period*

	Indicator 5: **<u>Mandatory</u>** <u>GEF Core Indicators 5:</u> Number of **direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender** as co-benefit of GEF investment	*Current number not available, however, some IAS and SLM related training and extension services available, but no wide spread and comprehensive actions being implemented*	*At least 2,000 persons directly benefiting from GEF investment (at least 50% women)*	*At least 18,238 persons directly benefiting from GEF investment (At least 50% women)*
Project component 1	Enabling framework for safeguarding biodiversity, combating land degradation and securing a nature-based economy			
Project Outcome 1 Strengthened inter-sectoral governance, capacity and strategies to mainstream biodiversity and LDN and support a nature-based economic pathway	*Indicator 6:* National coordination mechanisms for implementation of NBSAP, including (i) IAS prevention and management (ii) promotion of sustainable land management and (iii) promotion of blue/green economy	*Existing Environmental Advisory Committee not fully operationalized to support mainstreaming of biodiversity across sectors including through the promotion of resilient blue/green development pathways*	*Existing EAC strengthened with new mandates and working arrangements for improving coordination and mainstreaming biodiversity across all key sectors*	*EAC fully operational and functional and actively support mainstreaming biodiversity across key sectors as measured by: (i) number of key sectors participation; (ii) number of annual meetings; (iii) number of mainstreaming decisions made and acted upon*

	Indicator 7: National capacity for integrated natural resources management in key sectors increased as measured by UNDP capacity development scorecard baseline value for (i) Biodiversity Conservation and PA management = 16 and (ii) SLM = 7	*a cross-sector biodiversity mainstreaming committee will be operationalized, with the aim to strengthen the*	*At least 5 point increase in national capacity for biodiversity conservation/PA management and sustainable land management i as measured by UNDP capacity development scorecard*	*At least 15 point increase in national capacity for biodiversity conservation/PA management and sustainable land management in as measured by UNDP capacity development scorecard*
	Indicator 8: Number of plans and tools for conservation of globally threatened and endemic species, IAS and sustainable land management operationalized across sectors	*BSI has a national IAS strategy (2020-2030);* *MFMR has a national aquatic biosecurity plan focused on aquaculture, but tools and training limited*	*Assessment and validation of usefulness of existing tools and measures to strengthen use of existing tools or promotion of new tools; staff trained in use of tools and monitoring of applications initiated*	*At least 5 plans and tools for conservation of globally threatened and endemic species, IAS and sustainable land management developed or improved and actively being used*
Outputs to achieve Outcome 1	1.1 Cross-sectoral committee operationalized/strengthened to mainstream biodiversity across sectors, supported by blue/green economy strategy, relevant MOUs, improved national/local coordination and strengthened regulatory framework 1.2 Foundations for achieving land degradation neutrality (LDN) are developed through improved land use policy, sectoral policies and regulations, multi-sector coordination and advise on climate smart agriculture for sustainable land management 1.3 Government stakeholders at national and provincial levels (including agriculture, forestry and fisheries extension officers and PA managers) capacitated to enforce key mandates related to conservation of globally significant and endemic species, IAS and sustainable land management through institutionalized training and provision of equipment 1.4 Strengthened information management for biodiversity, IAS, LD, SLM and CSA linked to existing integrated data portal, along with enhanced decision support through improved monitoring, targeted gap-filling assessments, data-sharing protocols and priority species conservation lists and plans			

Project component 2	Comprehensive risk management approach to address IAS threats to biodiversity and land degradation			
Outcome 2 Comprehensive IAS framework for early detection, control and management identifies and prioritizes highest-risk invasion pathways to safeguard natural and production systems from IAS	**Indicator 9:** The National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan are finalized, strengthened and implemented	*No NISSAP exists, except for a preliminary draft that has not be acted upon for years*	*NISSAP completed and approved as a plan to address all IAS related issues in the country. Coordination arrangements for NISSAP implementation established with timetable for delivery of key actions*	*NISSAP is updated during life of the project and that update is comprehensive and serves as a ?road map? for all sectors to follow throughout the country.*
	Indicator 10: National capacity for biosecurity increased to prevent incursions of new IAS organisms into the country as measured by UNDP Capacity Development Scorecard (modified for IAS) with baseline score of 7	*Current national biosecurity capacity is limited to several of the major international ports and is mostly focused on agricultural pests*	*By mid-term, these efforts would be expanded to all international ports as well as several (2) domestic transit points to provide at least 5 point increase in Capacity Scorecard baseline*	*Biosecurity screening and prevention activities well developed at all international ports and be inclusive of all potential IAS for terrestrial, freshwater and marine systems and biosecurity at domestic demonstration transit points be solidified and lessons learned being expanded to other domestic transit ports through a prioritized effort to provide at least 15 point increase in Capacity Scorecard baseline*

	Indicator 11: No increase in established high-risk IAS threatening biodiversity and ecosystem services	*Although some capacity exists for EDRR, there is likely no planning document for EDRR and there is limited information on how information regarding pest reports are handled*	*EDRR plan developed with at least one or more ERPs* *Response team established at national level* *Invasive Species Emergency Response Plan approved and simulation training conducted on a few key species.* *Project Provinces have trained response teams*	*No increase in established high-risk IAS in project locations*
Outputs to achieve Outcome 2	2.1 National strategy for IAS management (NISSAP) adopted and operationalized through appropriate governance and established Standard Operating Procedures and prioritized lists of high-risk IAS 2.2 Strengthened biosecurity measures including essential equipment and capacity to support prevention, enforcement and control of IAS at key entry/exit points and between islands, with strengthened Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) mechanism and Emergency Response Plans (ERPs) in place and tested			
Project component 3	Community-based integrated ecosystem management and threat reduction at land/seascape scale			
Outcome 3 Community participation and improved livelihoods from a nature-based economic pathway that supports biodiversity conservation and reduces threats from IAS and land degradation	**Indicators 12:** Area of Marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity	No concerted efforts currently exists at landscape/seascape level that enables integrated and holistic natural resources use practices	*At least 20,000 hectares of marine habitat under improved management practices,*	*At least 110,039 hectares of marine habitat under improved management practices as measured by: (i) commitment of local communities to implement improved conservation and resource use practices; (ii) technical support and training being delivered to communities; (iii) monitoring system in place to monitor improved outcomes*

	Indicator 13: Number of species actions plans developed and approved (could include single species, species groups or critical ecosystems)	*Currently there are no detailed national species plans*	*Stakeholder consultations completed to identify a priority list of species (and critical ecosystems) for which actions plans need to be developed and a timeline for their preparation* *2-3 species and/or critical habitats identified for action plan preparation and draft actions plans under government review (Possible options to be formalized could include the parrot fish group, butterfly fish group and coral reef ecosystem)*	*At least 2-3 species and/or critical ecosystem actions plans developed and approved by government and a timetable agreed to action implementation. Implementation of at 25% of the identified priority actions for each plan initiated*

	Indicator 14: - Key species and habitats for globally threatened species enhanced and populations maintained Potential list of species groups such as Rabbit fish and parrot fish and Sturgeon fish and Tubi tree *(Xanthostemon melanoxylon,),* Gizo White-eye *Zosterops luteirostris,* White-throated Nightjar *Eurostopodus mystacalis,* Giant rat Vikas, *Solomys vikas and Rhipidura malaitae.* Selection of species will be based on agreed criteria to be determined by the Environment Advisory Committee. Potential criteria might include: currently vulnerable to decline or even extinction; or species with an observed, significant decline in occupied area; the appearance of new threats or intensification or accumulation	*Limited baseline information available. Baseline for selected species will be established in the inception phase of project implementation*	*Species populations and habitats stable or improved*	*Species populations and habitats stable or improved*

	Indicator 15: Number of new smallholder farms adapting sustainable land management and climate smart agricultural techniques, resulting in avoided degradation of forests, land and coastal ecosystems	*Limited number of land users employing SLM techniques, including composting and a very poor interpretation of agroforestry. Baseline will be determined at inception phase when community planning and mapping is initiated*	*At least an additional 250 number of smallholder farms adopting sustainable land management and climate smart agricultural techniques, resulting in avoided degradation of forests, land and coastal ecosystems*	*At least an additional 1,000 number of smallholder farms adopting sustainable land management and climate smart agricultural techniques, resulting in avoided degradation of forests, land and coastal ecosystems*
Outputs to achieve Outcome 3	3.1 Integrated land/seascape management plans with strong community governance developed and implemented over 82,000 ha of land/seascapes, using traditional and other knowledge to reduce threats from IAS, land degradation and unsustainable resource use 3.2 National species conservation action plans implemented for globally significant and indigenous biodiversity including in-situ measures to enhance habitats and reduce IAS threats and over-exploitation 3.3 Smallholder farmers supported to implement innovative agricultural practices for sustainable land management that deliver LDN, protect ecosystem services, reduce threats from IAS and improve incomes, including through learning by doing approaches (farmer field schools) and demonstration 3.4 Diversified resilient livelihoods options co-developed with communities to support ecosystem services provision, species and habitat recovery and the emergence of new green business opportunities (e.g. food, ecotourism, handicrafts, circular economy), particularly for women and youth			
Component 4	Knowledge management, awareness, M&E and gender mainstreaming			

Outcome 4 Increased project impact, replication and upscaling through enhanced awareness and knowledge management	**Indicator 16.** Percentage of sampled project stakeholders aware of potential conservation threats and adverse impacts of IAS and unsustainable land management practices, disaggregated by gender as measured by Knowledge, Aptitudes and Practices (KAP) surveys	Coordinated outreach on conservation threats and biosecurity lacking. Limited awareness of impact IAS among the general public. Baseline KAP surveys to be undertaken in Year 1. Followed by surveys at mid-term and end of project	*At least 25% of sampled project stakeholders (50:50 men and women) aware.*	*At least 50% of sampled project stakeholders (50:50 men and women) aware.*
	Indicator 17. Number of project best practices and lessons (including on gender and youth mainstreaming and socio-cultural benefits) are accessed and applied throughout the Solomon Islands	A few best practices and lessons available, but currently limited resources do not exist for their implementation.	*At least 5 project best practices and lessons (including on gender and youth mainstreaming and socio-cultural benefits) being accessed and documented*	*At least 10 project best practices and lessons (including on gender and youth mainstreaming and socio-cultural benefits) are accessed and applied throughout the Solomon Islands*
	Indicator 18: Number of initiatives that demonstrate participation and knowledge exchanges in Pacific biodiversity, IAS and SLM platforms	Very limited participation and knowledge exchanges in Pacific platforms.	*Linkages for participation and knowledge exchange established in at least three Pacific biodiversity, IAS and SLM platforms established*	*At least 10 initiatives undertaken that demonstrate active participation and knowledge exchange in Pacific biodiversity, IAS and SLM platforms*

Outputs to achieve Outcome 4	4.1 National communications strategy and plan implemented to raise public awareness on the crucial importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services and the broad benefits of ecosystem-based management 4.2 Knowledge sharing tools, biodiversity information/learning centers, events and networks developed and enhanced to aid effectiveness and up-scaling, including across the Pacific and with other SIDS 4.3 M&E system supports project impact including gender and youth mainstreaming

ANNEX B: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS (from GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies, and Responses to Comments from Council at work program inclusion and the Convention Secretariat and STAP at PIF).

Comment	Response	Relevant Section of UNDP Project Document and - GEF CEO ER.
Comments from STAP		

STAP Overall Assessment and Rating **Minor issues to be considered during project design:** STAP comment: STAP welcomes the proposal to reduce risk to Solomon Islands? biodiversity whilst improving the resilience of community livelihoods. STAP applauds the provision of a theory of change (ToC) at this stage, with an excellent description which helps outline the proposed project logic quickly, with a clear identification of drivers and barriers. At first glance the project seemed to be a poorly aligned set of activities, but the logic outlined in the ToC presented a very convincing case for how the components would work together to achieve the outcomes. The proposal treats local control and the empowerment of women and youth well, in a way that is embedded throughout, and seems to draw real lessons from previous projects. STAP would urge the proponents to continue to pay attention during further design to durability with respect to population pressures and climate change; and formally monitor and evaluate ToC assumptions over time to allow learning about these. Below, STAP	Thank you for your comment. Detailed responses to specific questions are provided in the sections below:	NA

Part I: Project Information B. Indicative Project Description Summary **<u>Outcomes:</u>** Are the global environmental benefits/adaptation benefits likely to be generated? **STAP comments** Plausible; attention needs to be paid to ensuring they are durable.	Thank for the comments. The PPG team agrees that durability of GEF outcomes are critical to ensuring that benefits are long lasting. To this end the project has incorporated the following actions: (i) ensuing that there is multi-stakeholder engagement at different levels. In this regard, the project envisages establishing multi-sectoral stakeholder arrangements at national level for all aspects of the project so as to build support across various sectors and stakeholders (and across administrative levels) for mainstream biodiversity conservation, achieving LDN and IAS prevention and management, preparation of NISSAP and conduct of EDRRs and ERPs, landscape/seascape planning etc.) as well as enhancing coordination at each of the 12 landscape/seascapes planning and management through provincial stakeholders participatory systems and subsequent planning at the local level through the respective CMMA, CMFA and community village organizations to ensure buy-in and durability at all levels; (ii) ensuring the endurance of investments through extensive capacity development programs including establishing Farmer Training Schools, extension services and sustainable livelihood promotion to build incentives that can ensure durability; (iii) regular monitoring and adaptive management to allow for flexibility to adjust based on new learning and practice. The intent of the project is to regularly update the PRF and indicators, methods of monitoring and development of KM products to build on experiences and learning	Refer Components 1 (multi-stakeholder coordination), Component 2 (NISSAP, EDRRs, ERPs), Component 3 (Farmer Training School, Livelihood improvement and seascape/landscape planning) Component 4 (Learning and KM products) of GEF CEO ER

Part II: Project justification 1. Project description. 2) Is the baseline identified clearly? **STAP Comments** Yes. The baseline section identifies many other activities, including promising underlying developments with community based management and policy commitments which indicate government readiness to move to the next step. It does note that there has been more than 20y of significant work on invasives, which does raise the question of why these have not yet succeeded and how this project is going to differ from earlier efforts. Does it provide a feasible basis for quantifying the project?s benefits? **STAP comments** There is little quantification in the baseline section, but there is relevant material earlier in the proposal and in section 5	Thank you for the very pertinent comment. While, there are 20 years of efforts to address IAS in the country, including development of biosecurity laws and regulations, an unit within the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands (MAL) to address biosecurity and an established CRB working group, current efforts have focused: (i) on containment of already established IAS rather than on prevention of new IAS entry into the country and on inter-island movement; (ii) at the individual sector levels rather than on a multi-sectoral and holistic approach; and (iii) largely on IAS related to agricultural crops rather than on a total approach to IAS prevention and management. The project will build on these baseline efforts, but focusing differently on both prevention and management; a more cross sectoral and holistic approach (including multiple sectors such as agriculture, lands, customs, tourism, immigration and others) to IAS prevention and management; harmonized to address prioritized needs through a strategic planning process that builds on past successes and is regularly updated and advancing to address new needs every 6 years. And through a more inclusive domestic growth in safeguarding against risk and impacts from IAS. It must be also kept in mind that IAS safeguarding is an ongoing process (and not a process that has a finite end) as there is no longer a point that a country can stop dealing with IAS. Instead, success is measured in reduction of threats and or impacts. The SAFE project will build on some of the past efforts to strengthen national capacity to further reduce IAS risks at ports of entry, domestic ports and even within community settings within demonstration areas.	Refer Barrier 2 and Component 2 in GEFCEO ER and UNDP Project Document

3) the proposed alternative scenario with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project a) Are the mechanisms of change plausible, and is there a well-informed identification of the underlying assumptions? **STAP Comment** Yes. The components list a lot of activities in total, so it will be important to ensure these are realistic from a budgetary point of view. Components 3 and 4 already address issues that will matter for scaling out the project, which is excellent foresight. b) Is there a recognition of what adaptations may be required during project implementation to respond to changing conditions in pursuit of the targeted outcomes? **STAP Comment** This could be enhanced by monitoring and	Thank for the comments (a) A thorough review was undertaken during project preparation to ensure that activities and expectations were realistic given the capacity and institutional structures within the country. The project design includes significant level of technical oversight, extensive training and extension services to build capacity within the country. The KM component includes significant investments in ensuring scaling up through development of KM products, documentation and dissemination events, field visits and capacity development to ensure sustainability and scaling up (b) The intent during project implementation is to review and update key aspects of the project to ensure flexibility based on MEL. For this purpose, the ToC, PRF, indicators and safeguard aspects will be regularly reviewed and updated.	Refer GEF CEO ER Component 4

5) incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEF trust fund, LDCF, SCCF, and co-financing GEF trust fund: will the proposed incremental activities lead to the delivery of global environmental benefits? **STAP Comment:** Good reasoning in Table. Notably the description addresses robust diversification earlier (p.22), which gives encouragement as regards durability. However, it would be good to maintain a focus on whether the key drivers of climate change, population and increasing consumption identified earlier may undermine the durability of GEBs achieved.	Thank you for the comment. The issues discussed by STAp are relevant to the project and will be specifically addressed as part of the landscape/seascape planning exercise for the 12 landscapes/seascapes. The guidance coming out of the landscape/seascape planning exercise will get integrated into the individual community managed forest and marine area plans as well as through other project specific community interventions so that these concerns are recognized as central to ensuring sustainable community practices	Refer Output 3.1 of GEF CEO ER

6) global environmental benefits (GEF trust fund) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF) Are indicators, or methodologies, provided to demonstrate how the global environmental benefits/adaptation benefits will be measured and monitored during project implementation? **STAP Comment:** MEL will need more development on details.	This is provided in the Monitoring Plan in the UNDP Project Document that defines, midterm and end of project targets, monitoring methods, periodicity of monitoring, responsibilities for monitoring and methods for validation of results along with assumptions and risks to achieve planned targets	Refer Table 11 of UNDP Project Document

7) innovative, sustainability and potential for scaling-up Will incremental adaptation be required, or more fundamental transformational change to achieve long term sustainability? **STAP Comments** A strong case is made that on-going incentives will be created to ensure durability. As noted above, STAP would urge some continued focus on population pressures and the risk of leakage of impacts to places outside the target communities; and on the longer-term implications of climate change.	Thank you for the comment. This is recognized as an important issue and is addressed above on comments concerning durability and implications of climate change etc.	NA

2. Stakeholders. What are the stakeholders? roles, and how will their combined roles contribute to robust project design, to achieving global environmental outcomes, and to lessons learned and knowledge? **STAP Comments** OK. STAP would note that there are many players (especially external ones) for a low capacity country, so having efficient means of coordinating across these (without creating a million committees) will be important ? a generic issue in the Pacific.	Thank for the comments. The intent is not to create unnecessary committees, but cross-sectoral coordination at national level is extremely necessary to prevent and manage IAS, as it need an integrated and whole of government (and non-government, including community) approach. At the local level, the intent is to implement the project through existing CMMA, CFMA and community organizations, but the project will provide training, capacity development, extension services and investment support to enhance the capacity of these local institutions	Refer Section 4 of UNDP GEF CEOER

3. Gender Equality and Women?s Empowerment **STAP Comments** Have gender differentiated risks and opportunities been identified, and were preliminary response measures described that would address these differences? **STAP comments:** Good outline and acknowledgement of cultural challenges, and well embedded throughout the proposal. An early gender analysis is intended	Thank for the comments Additional gender analysis was undertaken during the PPG stage	Refer Annex 11 of UNDP Project Document

5. Risks. **STAP Comments** Are the identified risks valid and comprehensive? Are the risks specifically for things outside the project?s control? Are there social and environmental risks which could affect the project? For climate risk, and climate resilience measures: ? How will the project?s objectives or outputs be affected by climate risks over the period 2020 to 2050, and have the impact of these risks been addressed adequately? ? Has the sensitivity to climate change, and its impacts, been assessed? ? Have resilience practices and measures to address projected climate risks and impacts been considered? How will these be dealt with? ? What technical and institutional capacity, and information, will be needed to address climate risks and resilience enhancement measures **STAP Comment:** Overall the risks seem comprehensive, including an excellent analysis of	That you for the comments Additional analysis was undertaken during the PPG stage to further assess the risks and suggest mitigation measures	Refer UNDP Project Document Annexes 19 and 20 and Section 5 (Risks) of GEF CEO ER

Council Member Comments		
Canada Comments ?Canada would like to note that this project is not tagged to Biodiversity Rio Marker (only climate change mitigation and adaptation listed).?	Thank you for your comment. This is appropriately tagged now	Refer Annex G of GEF CEO ER

Germany Comments: The overall project approach is very comprehensive, involving a number of very different intervention points. It would therefore be important to ensure that the overall project objectives are met sufficiently, leading to the intended changes in operations and behavior, and the project?s long-term sustainability is guaranteed. ?Germany would thus like to suggest that project proponents reevaluate overall feasibility and likelihood of the long-term sustainability of the project. Each project component should receive adequate resources (time, human and financial) in order to ensure overall project success. This should also be reflected in the projects risk management and theory of change -	At the PPG stage the feasibility of the proposed activities were evaluated based on existing institutional capacity, resources and other country constraints in order to develop a practical and feasible project. However, it was also noted that maintenance of the *status quo* was not the best approach, andf to supplement existing capacity, the project design included specific actions such as: (i) having a long-term international consultant to oversee and guide the project, at least in the initial 2 years; (ii) including a significant training component, both for IAS prevention and management and improving land productivity, the latter through the establishment of a farmer training school practical approach to build instiotutional and community capacity for SLM and CSA; (iii) establishing a strong multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder coordination mecahnisms (located in the Office of the Prime Minister) to coordinate IAS and SLM activities; (iv) support for a blue/green livelihood program to build incentives for community participation; and (v) support for strengthening existing community managed forest and marine areas programs to build community decision-making	Refer Section 3 of GEF CEO ER

United States Comments? We recommend additional collaboration with the USAID?s Strengthening Competitiveness, Agribusiness, Livelihoods and Environment Program, and the Pacific Island Forest Restoration Initiative, which could enhance the project?s capacity and resiliency	Thank you for this very useful comment and efforts will be made to ensure coordination across these two and other initiaves in the country.	Refer Table 1 of GEF CEO ER

ANNEX C: Status of Utilization of Project Preparation Grant (PPG). (Provide detailed funding amount of the PPG activities financing status in the table below:

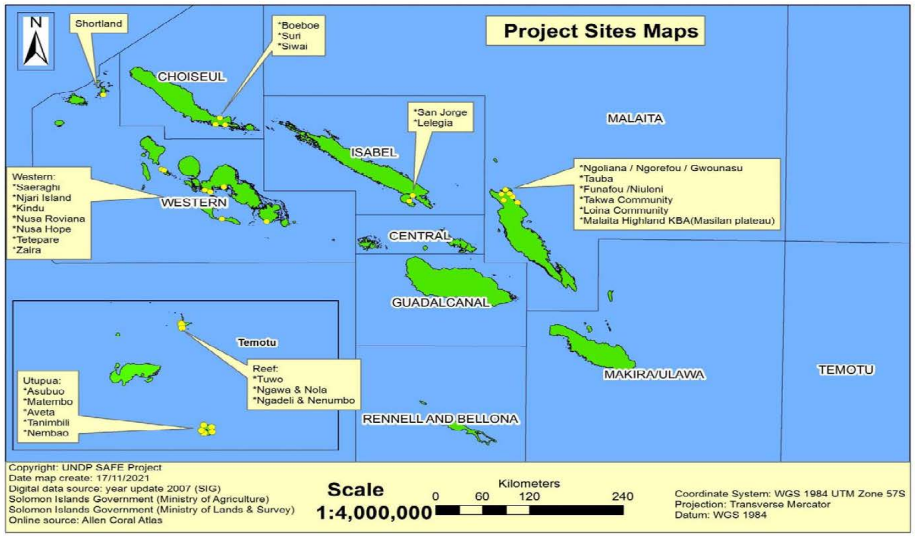
Status of Utilization of Project Preparation Grant (PPG) (Provide detailed funding amount of the PPG activities financing status in the table below:

Project Preparation Activities Implemented	***GETF/LDCF/SCCF Amount ($)***		
	Budgeted Amount	**Amount Spend To date**	**Amount Committed**
Component A: Preparatory Technical Studies & Reviews	127,500	135,100	8,533
Component B: Formulation of the UNDP-GEF Project Document, CEO Endorsement Request, and Mandatory and Project Specific Annexes	60,500	11,000	36,000
Component C: Validation Workshop Report	12,000	0	9,365
Total	**200,000.00**	**146,100**	**53,900**

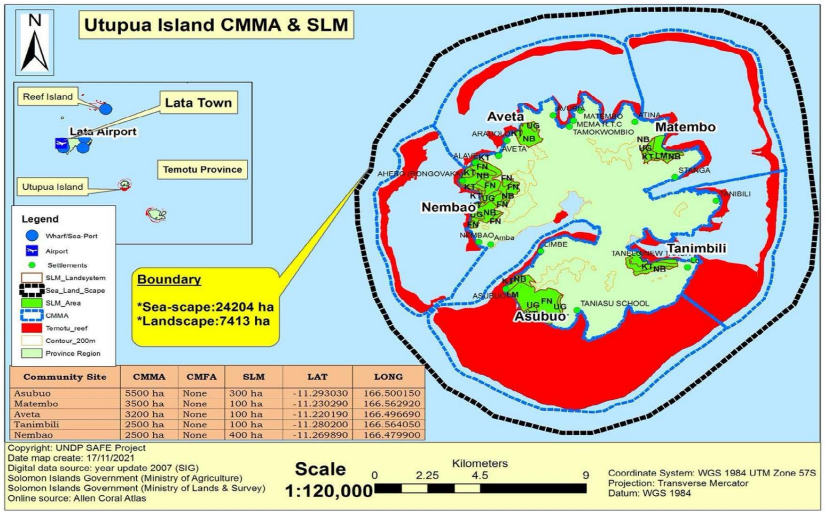
ANNEX D: Project Map(s) and Coordinates

Please attach the geographical location of the project area, if possible.

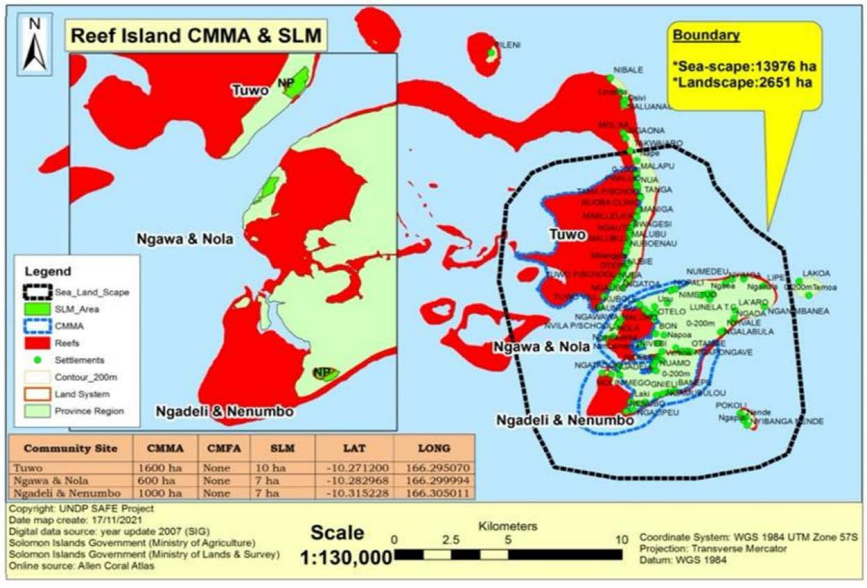
Solomon Islands Overview Map



Target Site A: Reef Islands and Utupua Seascape

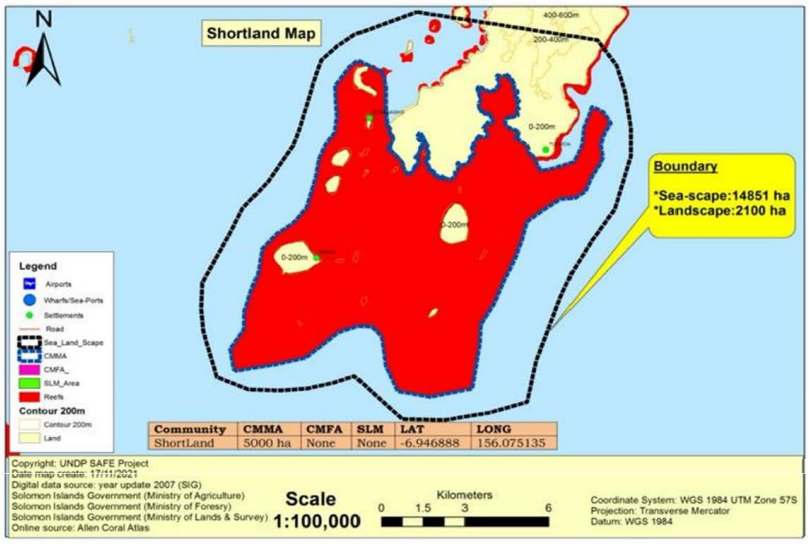


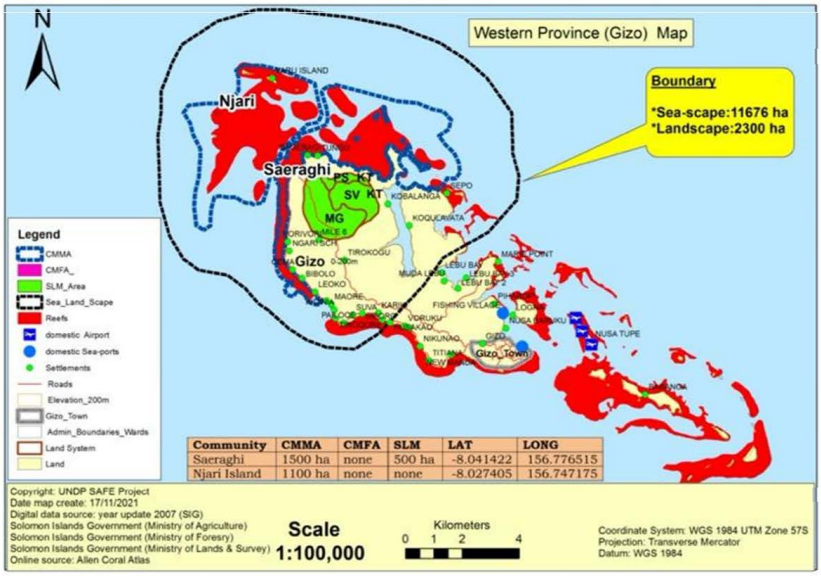
Community Site	CMMA	CMFA	SLM	LAT	LONG
Asubuo	5500 ha	None	300 ha	-11.293030	166.500150
Matembo	3500 ha	None	100 ha	-11.230290	166.562920
Aveta	3200 ha	None	100 ha	-11.220190	166.496690
Tanimbili	2500 ha	None	100 ha	-11.280200	166.564050
Nembao	2500 ha	None	400 ha	-11.269890	166.479900



Community Site	CMMA	CMFA	SLM	LAT	LONG
Tuwo	1600 ha	None	10 ha	-10.271200	166.295070
Ngawa & Nola	600 ha	None	7 ha	-10.282968	166.299994
Ngadeli & Nenumbo	1000 ha	None	7 ha	-10.315228	166.305011

Target Site B: Western Province




N
Western Province (Gizo) Map
Njari
Saeraghi
Gizo
Gizo_Town
Boundary
*Sea-scape:11676 ha
*Landscape:2300 ha
Legend
CMMA
CMFA_
SLM_Area
Sea_Land_Scape
Reefs
domestic Airport
domestic Sea-ports
Settlements
Roads
Elevation_200m
Gizo_Town
Admin_Boundaries_Wards
Land System
Land
Community | CMMA | CMFA | SLM | LAT | LONG
Saeraghi | 1500 ha | none | 500 ha | -8.041422 | 156.776515
Njari Island | 1100 ha | none | none | -8.027405 | 156.747175
Copyright: UNDP SAFE Project
Date map create: 17/11/2021
Digital data source: year update 2007 (SIG)
Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Agriculture)
Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Foresry)
Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Lands & Survey)
Online source: Allen Coral Atlas
Scale
1:100,000
Kilometers
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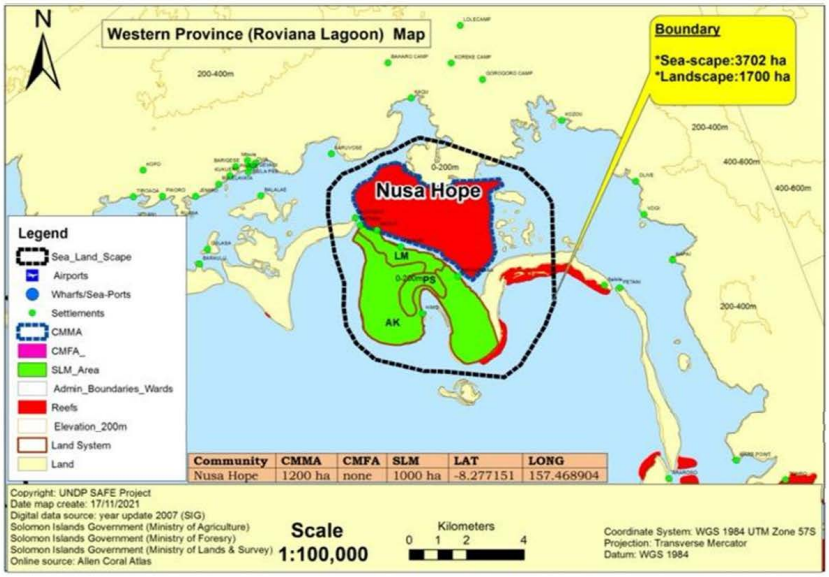
Coordinate System: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 57S
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: WGS 1984


N
Western Province (Roviana Lagoon) Map
Boundary
*Sea-scape:3702 ha
*Landscape:1700 ha
Nusa Hope
LM
PS
AK
0-200m
200-400m
400-600m
Legend
Sea_Land_Scape
Airports
Wharfs/Sea-Ports
Settlements
CMMA
CMFA_
SLM_Area
Admin_Boundaries_Wards
Reefs
Elevation_200m
Land System
Land
Community | CMMA | CMFA | SLM | LAT | LONG
Nusa Hope | 1200 ha | none | 1000 ha | -8.277151 | 157.468904
Copyright: UNDP SAFE Project
Date map create: 17/11/2021
Digital data source: year update 2007 (SIG)
Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Agriculture)
Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Foresry)
Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Lands & Survey)
Online source: Allen Coral Atlas
Scale
1:100,000
Kilometers
0 1 2 4
Coordinate System: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 57S
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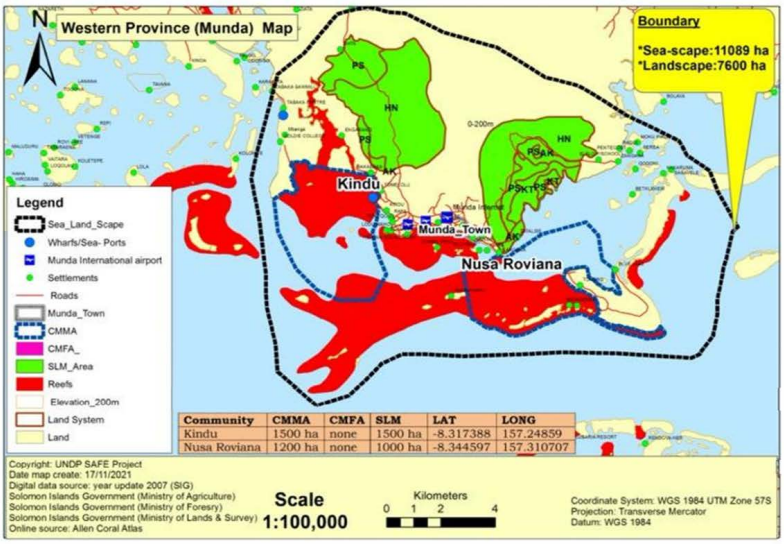
N
Western Province (Munda) Map
Boundary
*Sea-scape:11089 ha
*Landscape:7600 ha
Kindu
Munda_Town
Nusa Roviana
PS
HN
AK
0-200m
Legend
Sea_Land_Scape
Wharfs/Sea- Ports
Munda International airport
Settlements
Roads
Munda_Town
CMMA
CMFA_
SLM_Area
Reefs
Elevation_200m
Land System
Land
Community | CMMA | CMFA | SLM | LAT | LONG
Kindu | 1500 ha | none | 1500 ha | -8.317388 | 157.24859
Nusa Roviana | 1200 ha | none | 1000 ha | -8.344597 | 157.310707
Copyright: UNDP SAFE Project
Date map create: 17/11/2021
Digital data source: year update 2007 (SIG)
Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Agriculture)
Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Foresry)
Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Lands & Survey)
Online source: Allen Coral Atlas
Scale
1:100,000
Kilometers
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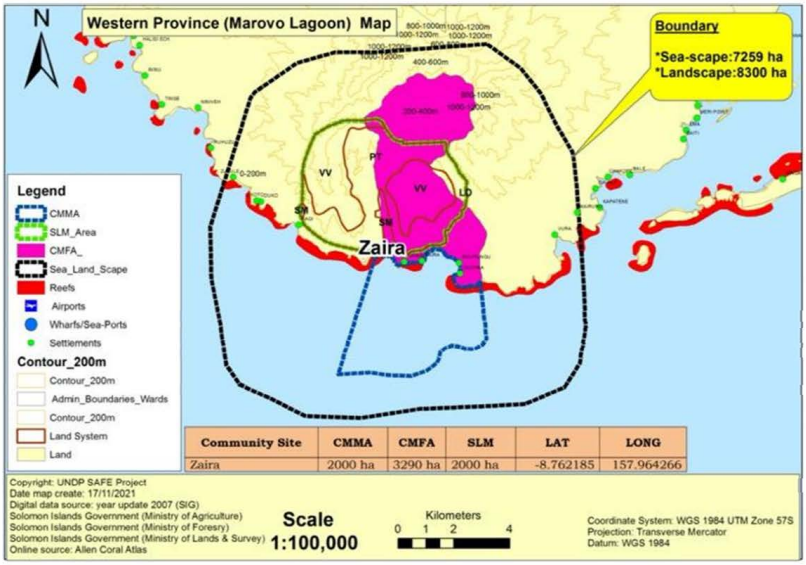
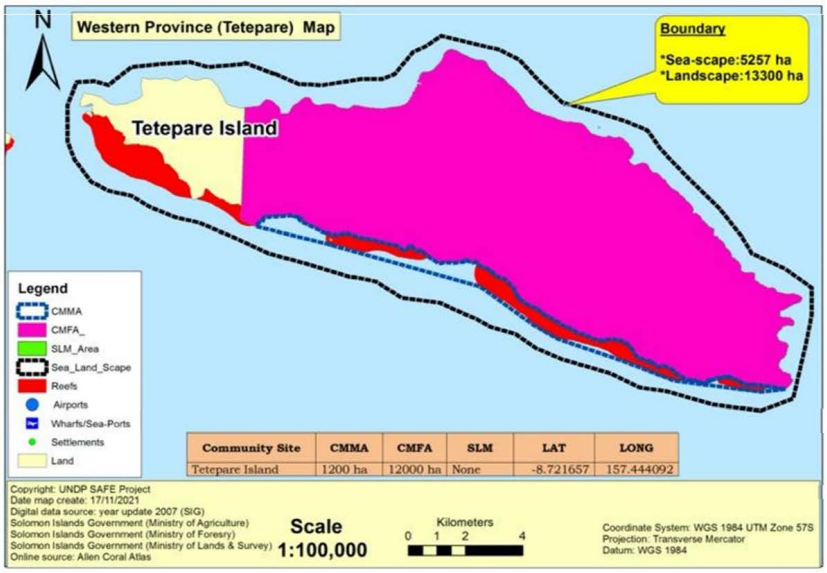
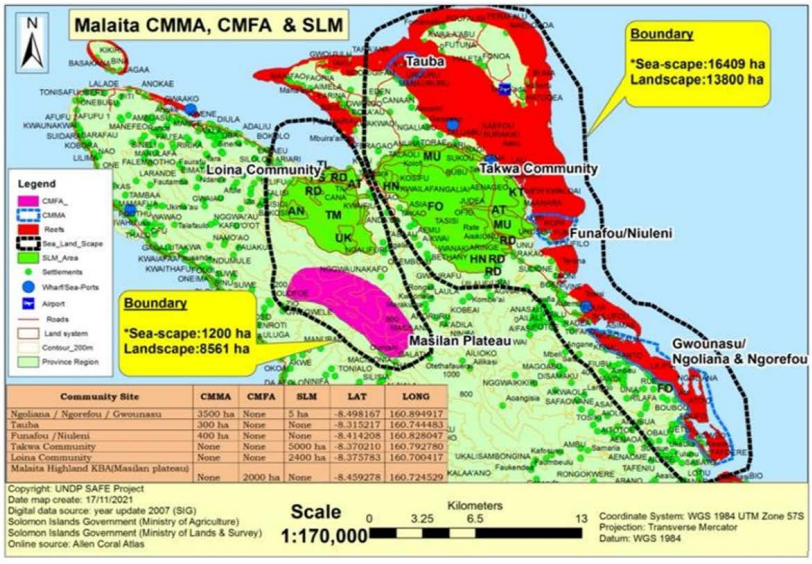
Coordinate System: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 57S
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: WGS 1984

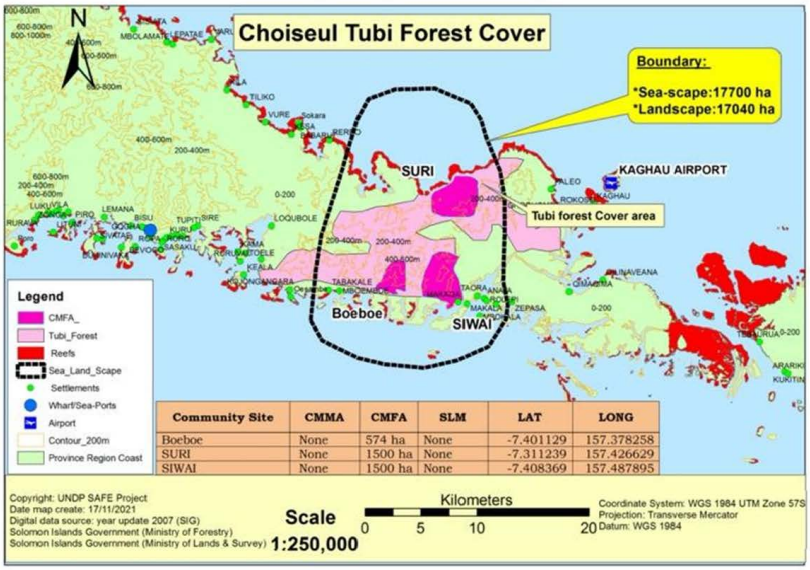

N
Western Province (Marovo Lagoon) Map
Boundary
*Sea-scape:7259 ha
*Landscape:8300 ha
Legend
CMMA
SLM_Area
CMFA_
Sea_Land_Scape
Reefs
Airports
Wharfs/Sea-Ports
Settlements
Contour_200m
Contour_200m
Admin_Boundaries_Wards
Contour_200m
Land System
Land
Zaira
VV
PF
LD
SW
Community Site | CMMA | CMFA | SLM | LAT | LONG
Zaira | 2000 ha | 3290 ha | 2000 ha | -8.762185 | 157.964266
Copyright: UNDP SAFE Project
Date map create: 17/11/2021
Digital data source: year update 2007 (SIG)
Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Agriculture)
Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Foresry)
Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Lands & Survey)
Online source: Allen Coral Atlas
Scale
1:100,000
Kilometers
0 1 2 4
Coordinate System: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 57S
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: WGS 1984

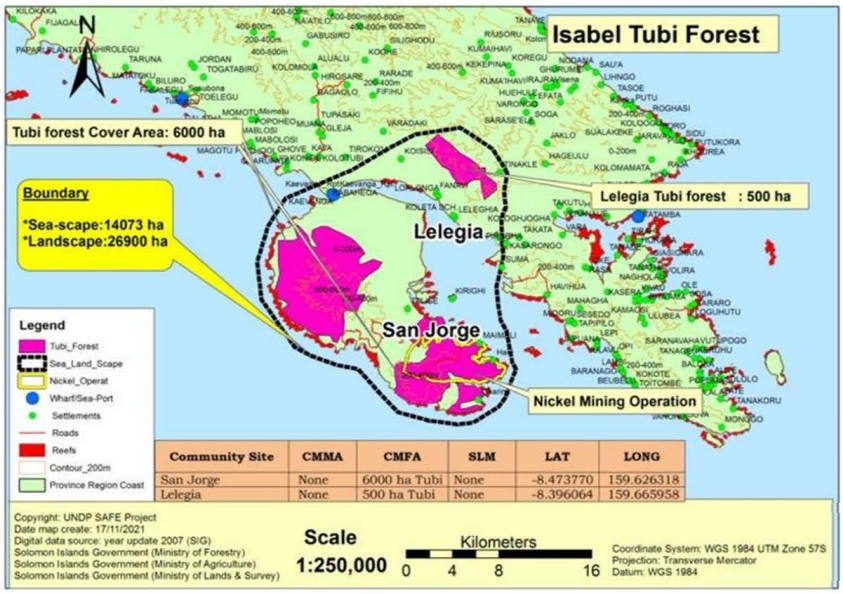


Target Site C: Malaita



Target Site D: Choiseul/Isabel





ANNEX E: Project Budget Table

Please attach a project budget table.

Expenditure Category		Component (USDeq.)							Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity (Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
		Component 1	Component 2	Component 3	Component 4	Sub-Total	M&E	PMC		
Furniture/Equipment	IT Equipment - $10,000 (i) Equipment for information management system (Output 1.4) - $10,000	10,000				10,000			10,000	MECDM
Furniture/Equipment	Equipment and furniture - $295,000 (i) Initial purchase and set up of early detection equipment in Year 2 and thereafter maintenance/upgrade (Output 2.2) - $25,000 (ii) Equipment and materials for strengthening biosecurity for international and domestic operations in Years 3 through 6 (Output 2.2) - $200,000 (iii) Initial purchase of equipment for EDRR work in Year 1 and later to be funded through cost recovery (Output 2.2) - $70,000		295,000			295,000			295,000	MECDM
Furniture/Equipment	Equipment and furniture - $320,000 (i) Purchase of materials and equipment to support community based IAS prevention and management actions as indicated in the integrated land and seascape management plans (Output 3.1) – 80,000 (ii) Equipment and materials to support implementation of species actions plans (Output 3.2) - $40,000 (iii) Equipment and materials to support implementation of small farmer practices to reduce threats from IAS and improve sustainable land and forest management and CSA(Output 3.3) - $100,000 (iv) Equipment in support of promotion of blue/green livelihood activities (Output 3.4) - $100,000			320,000		320,000			320,000	MECDM
Contractual Services – Individual	Contractual Services – Individual - $17,000 (i) Part costs of National Project Manager (to support technical aspects at 30% of time) for Outputs 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4 = $17,000	17,000				17,000			17,000	UNDP
Contractual Services – Individual	Contractual services – Individual - $8,000 (i) National Project Manager -part cost for Year 1 (Output 2.1) - $2,000 (ii) National Project Manager -part cost for Years 2 through 5 (Output 2.2) -$6,000		8,000			8,000			8,000	UNDP

Contractual Services – Individual	Contractual services – Individual $1,253,000 (i) Provincial Coordinators 5 (part costs) (Output 3.1) - $230,000 (ii) Community Liaison Associates 12 (part costs) (Output 3.1) - $96,000 (iii) National Project Manager -part cost (Output 3.1) - $4,000 (iv) Provincial coordinators part costs (Output 3.2) - $100,000 (v) National Project Manager -part cost (Output 3.2) - $3,000 (vi) Provincial coordinators part costs (Output 3.3) - $300,000 (vii) Community Liaison Associates- part costs (Output 3.3) - $198,000 (viii) National Project Manager -part cost (Output 3.3) - $9,000 (ix) Provincial Coordinators - part costs (Output 3.4) – $190,000 (x) Community Liaison Associates= part costs (Output 3.4) – $114,000 (xi) National Project Manager – Part costs - part costs (Output 3.4) –$9,000			1,253,000		1,253,000			1,253,000	UNDP
Contractual Services – Individual	Contractual services – Individual - $99,000 (i) Provincial Coordinators (part costs) for support awareness and communications programs (Output 4.1) - $35,000 (ii) National Project Manager -part cost for support awareness and communications programs (Output 4.1) -$4,000 (iii) Provincial coordinators part costs for supporting KM and documentation (Output 3.2) - $55,000 (iv) National Project Manager -part cost for supporting KM and documentation (Output 3.2) - $5,000				99,000	99,000			99,000	UNDP
Contractual Services – Individual	Contractual services – Individual - $61,000 (i) Provincial coordinators part costs related to support M&E (Output 4.3) - $45,000 (ii) Project Manager part costs related to M&E (Output 4.3) - $16,000					-	61,000		61,000	UNDP
Contractual Services – Individual	Contractual services – Individual - $348,360 (i) 70% cost of Project Manager for administration functions - $168,193 (ii) Finance and Administrative Officer at $30,000/year - $180,000					-		348,193	348,193	UNDP
Contractual Services – Company	Contractual Services – Firm -$790,000 (i) Consultancy Firm to support development of demonstration sites in 2 ports for biosecurity strengthening, enhanced equipment and operations (@$300,000/port) and maintenance (from Year 4 onwards @$50,000/Year) until cost-recovery on-stream (Output 1.3) - $750,000 (ii) NGO to provide Farmer Field School facilitations at $10,000/year from Year 3 onwards (Output 1.3) - $40,000	790,000				790,000			790,000	MECDM
Contractual Services – Company	Contractual services – Companies - $155,000 (i) Contractual Firm for development of awareness strategy and materials for national awareness (Year 1 and 2) strategy for IAS detection and reporting and carry out awareness campaign from Year 3 onwards ($20,000/year) (Output 2.2) - $155,000		155,000			155,000			155,000	MECDM
Contractual Services – Company	Contractual services – Companies -$2,028,690 (i) Firm for mapping of the landscape/seascape sites. Including seagrass beds (Output 3.1) - $100,000 (ii) Firm to undertake scoped ESIAs for each site (Output 3.1) - $130,000 (iii) Firm/NGO to provide facilitation support to land users to adopt SLM/CSA through period of project (Output 3.3) - $140,000 (iv) Consultancy Firm/NGO to support community implementation of land management activities at ground level to cover around 14,000 ha (Output 3.3) - $1,028,690(v) Consultancy Firm/NGO to oversee and support blue green community livelihoods (Output 3.4) - $630,000			2,028,690		2,028,690			2,028,690	MECDM
Contractual Services – Company	Contractual services – Companies - $260,000 (i) Development of IAS/LD awareness and communication plan and materials in Year 1 and 2 (Output 4.1) - $130,000 (ii) Firm to undertake implementation of awareness and communication at national and field levels from Year 2 onwards (Output 4.1) - $45,000 (iii) Firm/NGO to establish and maintain project website (Output 4.1) - $35,000 (iv) Firm/NGO to undertake documentation of best practices/preparation of policy notes etc. (Output 4.2) - $50,000			-	260,000	260,000			260,000	MECDM
International Consultants	International Consultant - $495,000 (i) International Technical Advisor (intermittent long-term with 9 months in Year 1 and 2, 4 months in Years 3-5 and 3 months in Year 6) - for Outputs 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4 - $175,000 (ii) International Consultant – For development of guidelines/standards for landscape/Seascape planning, governance and mainstreaming at $15,000/month for 6 months in Year 1 and 2 respectively (Output 1.1) - $150,000 (iii) International consultant to conduct biosecurity system wide assessment at 40 days @$625/day in Year 1 (Output 1.2) - $25,000 (iv) International consultant to review existing BSI strategy and update at 40 days @$625/day in Year 2 (Output 1.2) - $25,000 (v) International SLM/CSA Master Trainer for 4 months for each of Year 1 and 2 at $15,000/month (Output 1.2) -$120,000	495,000				495,000			495,000	MECDM
International Consultants	International Consultants - $201,000 (i) International Technical Advisor part costs in Year 1 (Output 2.1) - $10,000 (ii) International Technical Advisor part costs in Years 1 through 5 (Output 2.2) - $30,000 (iii) International consultant to NISSAP development 50 days@700/day in Year 1 (Output 2.1) - $35,000 (iv) International biosecurity expert to support BSI strengthen biosecurity measures throughout the country in Year 2 (50 days @$700/day) (Output 2.2) - $35,000 (v) International legal expert to develop regulations and protocols for national biosecurity measures (50 days @$700/day) (Output 2.2) - $35,000 (vi) International consultant to coordinate development of EDRR strategy in Year 1 (50 days @$700/day) (Output 2.2) - $35,000 (vii) International consultant to develop ERPs 30 days@$700/day in Year 2 (Output 2.2) - $21,000		201,000			201,000			201,000	MECDM

International Consultants	International Consultants - $578,000 (i) International Technical Advisor - part costs from Year 2 through 6 (Output 3.1) $55,000 (ii) International advisor -part costs (prioritization of species and support for development of species action plans)in Year 2 and 3 (Output 3.2) - $20,000 (iii) International technical advisor part costs from Years 1 through 6 to support (Output 3.3) - $60,000 (iv) International Advisor part costs to oversee blue/green agenda development from Year 1 through 6 (Output 3.4) - $27,000 (v) International Consultant to undertake preparation of IPP and ESMP and SESA in year 1/2 (Output 3.1) - $60,000 (i) International consultant to facilitate preparation of species actions plans (70days) in Years 2 and 3 –(Output 3.2) $51,000 (ii) International farmer field schools master trainer for 6 months in Year 1 and 3 months thereafter for each of Years 2-5 (Output 2.3) - $270,000 (iii) International consultant to support development of blue/green livelihood plan at 50 days (Output 3.4) - $35.000			578,000		578,000			578,000	MECDM
International Consultants	International Consultants - $50,000 (i) International Advisor To provide oversight/guidance for developing awareness and communication strategy and materials (Output 4.1) - $50,000				50,000	50,000			50,000	MECDM
International Consultants	International Consultants -$116,000 (i) International technical advisor part costs to support monitoring framework and guide monitoring (Output 4.3) - $60,000 (ii) International Consultant for MTR (Output 4.3) - $28,000 (iii) International Consultant for TE (Output 4.3) - $28,000					-	116,000		116,000	UNDP
Local Consultants	Local Consultants - $144,000 (i) National consultant (to support international TA providing technical support for development of guidelines/standards for landscape/Seascape planning, governance and mainstreaming at $2,500/month for 24 months in Year 1,2 and 3 (Output 1.1) - $60,000 (ii) National Consultant: 40 days @ $300/day to develop modular training program for landscape seascape planning (Year 2) (Output 1.1) - $12,000 (iii) National Consultant: 40 days @ $300/day to develop advocacy strategy for promotion of landscape/seascape approach in Year 2 (Output 1.1) - $12,000 (iv) National legal Consultant for 100 days@$300/day to support review/update of Agriculture and Livestock Act and Regulations and NRLUP related policy and guidelines (Output 1.2) - $30,000 (v) National IAS data management consultant to compile data from existing ministries and sectors (50 days @$300/day (Output 1.3) - $15,000 (vi) National IAS data management consultant to compile data from existing ministries and sectors (50 days @$300/day) (Output 1.4) - $15,000	144,000				144,000			144,000	MECDM
Local Consultants	Local Consultants - $30,000 (i) National Consultant to provide support for NISSAP development -60 days@$300day in Year 1 (Output 2.1) - $18,000 (ii) National Consultant to develop EDRR funding mechanism 40 days at $300/day in Year 3 (Output 2.2) - $12,000		30,000			30,000			30,000	MECDM
Local Consultants	Local Consultants - $76,000 (i) Gender consultant at 50 days in Year 1 and 30 days in Years 2,3 and 4. at $300/day (Output 3.1) - $42,000 (ii) National Consultant to support species action planning at $300/day (Output 3.2) - $34,000			76,000		76,000			76,000	MECDM
Local Consultants	Local Consultants - $96,000 (i) National consultant to undertake KAP surveys at 30 days/survey at $300/day in Years 1, 3 and 6 (Output 4.1) - $27,000 (ii) Gender consultant at 80 days in Year 1 and 30 days in Years 2,3 and 4. at $300/day to support gender training and oversight (Output 4.1) - $69,000				96,000	96,000			96,000	MECDM
Local Consultants	Local Consultants - $27,000 (i) National Consultant for MTR (Output 4.3) - $12,000 (ii) National Consultant for TE (Output 4.3) - $15,000					-	27,000		27,000	UNDP
Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	Training, workshops and Conferences - $111,000 (i) Environment Advisory Committee meetings (Output 1.1) - $1,000/annually - $6,000 (ii) Consultation meetings related to preparation of landscape/seascape guidelines/standards in Year 1 and 2 (Output 1.1)-$4,000 (iii) Meetings to promote advocacy strategy development in Year 3 and 4 (Output 1.1) - $2,000 (iv) Training to sector agencies and other stakeholders on promotion of landscape/seascape planning in Year 2, 3 and 4 - $9,000 (v) Workshops to develop LDN baselines and targets at national and provincial levels in Year 1 and 2 (Output 1.2) - $10,000 (vi) Consultation workshops to support legal and policy reviews of Agriculture and Livestock Acts and regulations in Year 2, 3 and 4 (Output 1.2) - $25,000 (vii) Workshops for training staff in application of new legislation and policies/guidelines in Years 3 and 4 (Output 1.2) - $10,000 (viii) Training workshops to support implementation of RLUPs in 4 demonstration sites in Years 3, 4 and 5 (Output 1.2) - $12,000 (ix) Workshops to support IAS biosecurity system wide assessment in Year 1 (Output 1.3) - $5,000 (x) Workshops to support review of BSI strategy and update in Year 2 (Output 1.3) - $5,000 (xi) Workshops for LDN (through SLM and CSA) at national and provincial level in Years 2 to 5 at $5,000/year (Output 1.3) - $20,000 (xii) Workshops for economic analysis in Year 1 and 2 (Output 1.4) - $3,000	111,000				111,000			111,000	MECDM
Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	Training, workshops and Conferences - $185,000 (i) Consultation workshops for NISSAP development in Year 1 and 2 (Output 2.1) - $10,000 (ii) Workshops and Consultation costs for support biosecurity training in Years 3 through 6 at $20,000/year (Output 2.2) - $80,000 (iii) Initial training for the ED reporting system operators in Year 3 (Output 2.2) - $5,000 (iv) Training of staff for EDDR and ERP implementation, including mock exercises in Year 3 and 6 (Output 2.2) - $60,000 (v) Initial training for new hire domestic biosecurity officers and managers in Year 3 (Output 2.2) - $20,000 (vi) Workshops and Consultation costs associated with biosecurity development and regulations in Years 2 and 3 (Output 2.2) - $10,000		185,000			185,000			185,000	MECDM
Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	Training, workshops and Conferences - $486,000 (i) Consultation meetings for mapping exercises at landscape/seascape level (Output 3.1) - $8,000 (ii) Workshops for training on gender and safeguard aspects (Output 3.1) - $13,000 (iii) Capacity building training for IAS safeguarding at local communities level from Year 3 onwards (Output 3.1) -$40,000 (iv) Training of staff(s) for implementation of species actions plans (Output 3.2) - $20,000 (v) Consultation workshops related to preparation of species action plans (Output 3.2) - $20,000 (vi) Workshops for dissemination of best practices and lessons learned on IAS control and management (Output 3.3) - $45,000 (vii) Workshops for training in FFS for community members through 6 years (Output 3.3) - $180,000 (viii) Training workshops to promote livelihood activities through 6 years (Output 3.4) - $160,000			486,000		486,000			486,000	MECDM
Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	Training, workshops and Conferences - $81,000 (i) Workshops for training on gender and safeguard aspects (Output 4.1) - $35,000 (ii) Consultation meetings associated with development of KM products and dissemination events (Output 4.2) - $16,000 (iii) End of Project workshop(s) at national and provincial levels (Output 4.2) - $30,000				81,000	81,000			81,000	MECDM

Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	Training, workshops and Conferences - $70,000 (i) Launch workshop(s) at national and provincial level in Year 1 (Output 4.3) - $30,000 (ii) Workshops/consultations associated with M&E and MTR and TE 1 (Output 4.3) - $40,000					-	70,000		70,000	MECDM
Travel	Travel - $112,000 (i) Travel costs for international Technical advisor and consultants (Output 1.1) - $31,000 (ii) Travel costs associated with LDN and legal/policy reviews (Output 1,2) - $20,000 (iii) FFS Trainer to travel to demo sites and train locally based FFS Facilitators (lead farmers / extension staff / NGO staff) (Output 1.3) - $40,000 (iv) International consultant travel related to biosecurity system wide assessment and BSI strategy update (Output 1.3) - $21,000	112,000				112,000			112,000	MECDM
Travel	Travel - $70,000 (i) Travel costs related to NISSAP development in Year 1 (Output 2.1) - $15,000 (ii) Travel costs associated with biosecurity consultancies and EDRR exercises in Years 2 through 6 (Output 2.2) -$55,000		70,000			70,000			70,000	MECDM
Travel	Travel - $305,000 (i) Travel associated with landscape/seascape planning (Output 3.1) - $40,000 (ii) Travel costs associated with field visits regarding species planning (Output 3.2) - $45,000 (iii) Travel related to facilitation support, training and extension for on-the-ground investment in SLM/CSA/IAS management (Output 3.3) $110,000 (iv) Travel associated with training and consultancies for promotion of blue/green livelihoods (Output 3.4) - $110,000			305,000		305,000			305,000	MECDM
Travel	Travel -$157,000 (i) Travel associated with awareness and gender aspects and KAP surveys (Output 4.1) - $62,000 (ii) Travel costs associated with development of KM products and dissemination events (Output 4.2) – 95,000				157,000	157,000			157,000	MECDM
Travel	Travel - $90,000 (i)Travel associated with M&E work (Output 4.3) - $60,000 (ii) Travel associated with MTR and TE (Output 4.3) - $30,000					-	90,000		90,000	MECDM
Sub-contract to executing partner	Direct Project Cost-Staff/Services to projects -GOE – $70,717					-		70,717	70,717	UNDP
Office Supplies	PMU Supplies- $3,000					-		3,000	3,000	MECDM
Other Operating Costs	Audit costs - $13,758					-		13,758	13,758	UNDP
Grand Total		1,679,000	944,000	5,046,690	743,000	8,412,690	364,000	435,668	9,212,358	

ANNEX F: (For NGI only) Termsheet

Instructions. Please submit an finalized termsheet in this section. The NGI Program Call for Proposals provided a template in Annex A of the Call for Proposals that can be used by the Agency. Agencies can use their own termsheets but must add sections on Currency Risk, Co-financing Ratio and Financial Additionality as defined in the template provided in Annex A of the Call for proposals. Termsheets submitted at CEO endorsement stage should include final terms and conditions of the financing.

ANNEX G: (For NGI only) Reflows

Instructions. Please submit a reflows table as provided in Annex B of the NGI Program Call for Proposals and the Trustee excel sheet for reflows (as provided by the Secretariat or the Trustee) in the Document Section of the CEO endorsement. The Agencys is required to quantify any expected financial return/gains/interests earned on non-grant instruments that will be transferred to the GEF Trust Fund as noted in the Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy. Partner Agencies will be required to comply with the reflows procedures established in their respective Financial Procedures Agreement with the GEF Trustee. Agencies are welcomed to provide assumptions that explain expected financial reflow schedules.

ANNEX H: (For NGI only) Agency Capacity to generate reflows

Instructions. The GEF Agency submitting the CEO endorsement request is required to respond to any questions raised as part of the PIF review process that required clarifications on the Agency Capacity to manage reflows. This Annex seeks to demonstrate Agencies? capacity and eligibility to administer NGI resources as established in the Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy, GEF/C.52/Inf.06/Rev.01, June 9, 2017 (Annex 5).